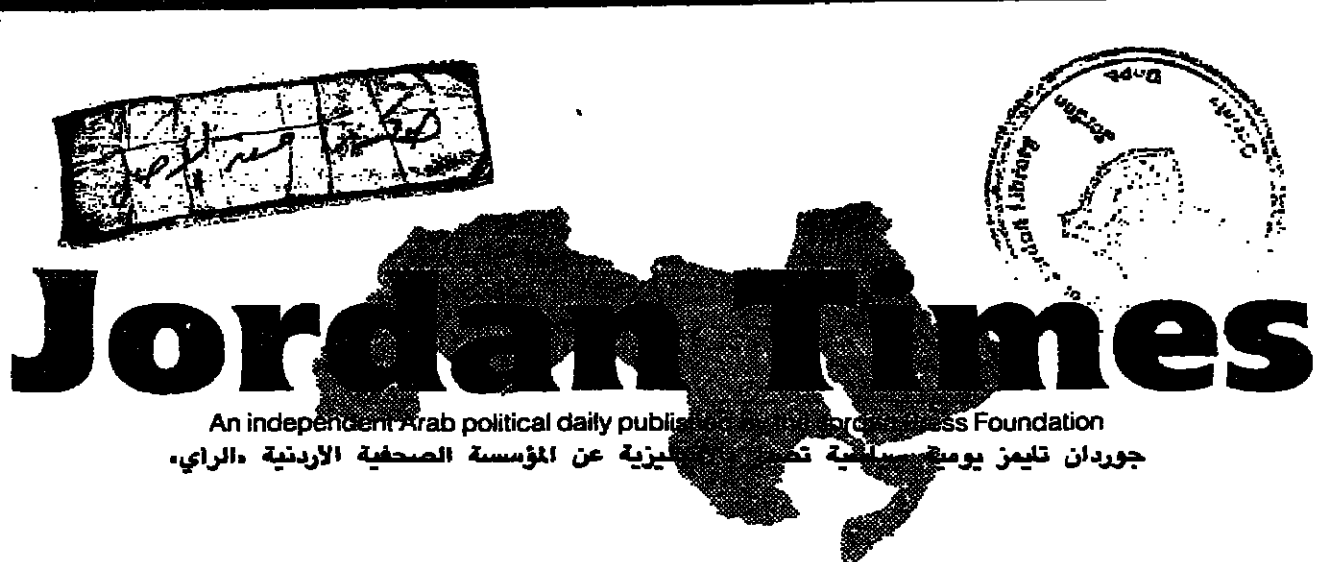


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British queen refuses to meet Bavdra

LONDON (R) — Ousted Fijian Prime Minister Timoci Bavdra suffered a setback Sunday in efforts to gain support for his reinstatement when Queen Elizabeth II, head of state of Fiji, turned down his request for a meeting. Mr. Bavdra's government was overthrown last month by a military coup in the South Pacific island state, a member of the Commonwealth group of nations. He arrived in London seeking British and royal backing, but only hours after his arrival, Buckingham Palace said the queen had decided not to see him, after advice from her representative in Fiji, Governor-General Ratu Sir Penia Ganilau. A palace spokesman said: "The queen has made the decision that she will not be able to see him. This followed consultations with the governor-general of Fiji." The spokesman added, however, that the queen's private secretary, Sir William Heslop, would meet Mr. Bavdra on Monday. On his arrival at Heathrow airport, Mr. Bavdra told reporters: "I hope to discuss with the queen the events taking place in my country. She is my queen, she is the queen of Fiji. She is bound to at least listen to me." (See related story on page 10)



Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة تصدر عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «النراي»

Iraq reports foiling Iranian attack

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraq said Sunday Iran suffered huge losses in an abortive night attack, while Iran said Kurdish rebels killed more than 80 Iraqi troops in a battle in northern Iraq and scored a string of military successes in recent days. The claims were made in a series of military communiques reported by the official news agencies of the warring sides. Iraq reported its forces inflicted huge losses on the Iranians, foiling a lightning night attack in the northern sector of the 1,180 kilometre-long frontline. The Iraqi communique said Iraqi helicopter gunships flew 43 combat missions in various sectors of the extensive front "inflicting further losses in men and equipment, returning safely to base." The communique did not give the exact location of the latest Iranian attack. It said only it was in the 5th army sector, covering the northern mountainous area, where Iraq had reported repulsing another big Iranian attack on Friday. The Iranian daily war communique indicated only routine activities along the frontline, speaking only of 10 Iraqi troops killed or wounded.

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Poll finds more European support for Soviet peace policies
STOCKHOLM (AP) — West Europeans think Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev is doing more for world peace than U.S. President Ronald Reagan, according to polls from nine countries published Sunday. The Stockholm-based newspaper Dagens Nyheter, which commissioned the polls, said West European attitudes towards the Soviet Union were clearly warming. One of the polls' six main questions compared the Soviet Union with the United States. Asked which of the two superpowers "does the most to cut back the arms race," 11 per cent said the U.S. and 32 per cent said the Soviet Union. Forty-four per cent said both. The polls were conducted March 24-May 30 in West Germany, France, Great Britain, Greece, the Netherlands, Belgium, Italy, Switzerland and Sweden, and 10,064 people were interviewed.

12 sentenced to jail in Algerian political trial
ALGIERS (R) — Twelve followers of former President Ahmed Ben Bella were sentenced to between two and 10 years in jail on Monday for plotting against the Algerian state. Four of the accused were tried in their absence because the state security court, which bank was ordered to try them, had reported that 22 defendants "the official" said he would give up his fight against the regime. The trial was part of a series of political trials in Algeria. Ben Bella, a Marxist leader who lived in Europe and is regarded as a leader of the Algerian Democratic Movement, which came to power in 1962, was sentenced to 10 years in jail. The trial was presided over by representatives of the London-based human rights organisation Amnesty International.

Underground group warns Kuwait
BEIRUT (R) — A little-known underground group said Sunday day Bangladesh would take action against any harm was inflicted on six Kuwaitis sentenced to death there on Saturday. A typical statement delivered to an international news agency in the name of "The Forces of the rapprochement in Kuwait" described the sentences "on our part in order to achieve the" that she said its warning was being. When he returned to "the emir of" of grew super-wealthy, his family and the whole that she and her husband were convicted the abduction of the six Kuwaitis were convicted an Italian agency, the state security court of the explanation of the vital oil installations and plotting to undermine Kuwait's territorial integrity and social and economic fabric.

Libyan foreign minister in Tehran
TICOSA (AP) — Libyan Foreign Minister Jadhalla Azzouli said Sunday he arrived in Tehran Sunday to talk with Iranian officials. The privatised Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati and Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani, the agent. Organisations for environmental relations between Libya and Iran as "strong" and saying his framework of friendly relations between the two countries, Libya supports Iran in the Gulf war against Iraq. But relations between Tripoli and Tehran were reported strained in recent months.

Settlers rampage through Dheishe

Arab homes attacked and property damaged in West Bank refugee camp

Combined agency dispatches

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Armed Jewish settlers rampaged through the Dheishe refugee camp in the occupied West Bank overnight, damaging Arab property and clashing with Palestinians in the camp.

According to Palestinian and Israeli reports, about 100 settlers entered the camp around 10 p.m. Saturday night and broke into some homes, set one car on fire, slashed automobile tyres, broke windows of homes and cars as well as destroyed solar heating panels in private homes.

The Palestine Press Service said the settlers arrived at the camp in buses and used the vehicles to block the main highway linking Hebron with Jerusalem. As they rampaged through the camp, Palestinians came out of their homes to confront them and then the Israeli army intervened to disperse the two groups. The agency added that clashes between settlers and residents lasted until 2 a.m. before the Israeli army brought the situation under control.

Israeli reports said the settlers' action came after an Israeli bus stoned by Palestinians demonstrating against the Israeli occupation on the eve of the 20th anniversary of the 1967 war.

The Israeli army dispersed the crowd at Dheishe by lobbing tear-gas canisters and firing shots in the air, said Brigadier General Amram Mitzna, head of the Israeli occupation army in the West Bank.

Gen. Mitzna accused the settlers of committing "acts of provocation and violence that are hard to describe."

Six settlers from Kiryat Arba, about 25 kilometres south of Dheishe, were arrested by police after the army filed complaints against them, Gen. Mitzna said.

In addition, the army clamped a curfew overnight on the camp of 15,000 Palestinians near Bethlehem, ordering all Dheishe residents to stay in their homes.

Gen. Mitzna, who met Sunday with a delegation of Palestinian residents from Dheishe, accused "an extremist minority of opening fire straight into the camp, breaking windows of houses, smashing windows of cars and trying to set one car on fire."

Gen. Mitzna said his troops prevented all but about three of the settlers from entering Dheishe, but accused the settlers of "beating the soldiers who tried to stop them."

Bishara Asfour, one of the Palestinians who met with Gen. Mitzna, said windows in his home at the edge of the camp were broken and outside walls were pockmarked with bullet shells.

"My children couldn't sleep all night. They were crying," Mr. Asfour told AP. "What's to stop the settlers from doing this again?"

The settlers told authorities they drove to Dheishe to protest a stoning incident Friday, when an Israeli woman was slightly injured by broken glass after a bus was stoned as it drove by the camp.

"I know nothing about this. I was resting peacefully at home when this happened," Mr. Asfour said.

(Continued on page 3)

Israeli soldier killed in Lebanon

BEIRUT (Agencies) — An Israeli soldier was killed and two others were wounded Sunday in a roadside bomb blast in South Lebanon, where Israeli troops and their allies also shot dead five and wounded another five in two other separate incidents.

The Israeli soldier was killed during an attack on an Israeli patrol at about 8 a.m. near Taibe in Israel's self-proclaimed "security zone," some eight kilometres north of the international border, the Israeli army said in Tel Aviv.

Israel radio said the two wounded soldiers were transferred to hospital. One soldier suffered serious to moderate wounds while the other was lightly wounded, it reported.

Earlier, Lebanese police said Israeli troops and SLA men shot dead five and wounded another five men in two separate incidents in South Lebanon.

An armoured SLA column supported by Israeli troops rumbled into the southern Lebanese village of Kfar Shouba at mid-morning Sunday and conducted a house-to-house search for suspected commandos, police reported.

Three villagers were killed and two wounded in the operation that was apparently mounted in retaliation for a roadside bomb blast in which three SLA soldiers were wounded Saturday, according to the police.

Kfar Shouba is three kilometres north of the Israeli border on the southern tip of the

GCC studies bids for Gulf peace and security

JEDDAH (R) — Renewed efforts to end the Iran-Iraq war and joint security plans for the Gulf Arab states were well to the fore as GCC foreign ministers continued their two-day talks on Sunday.

The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) ministers are meeting amid fresh concern, since the May 17 missile attack on the U.S. frigate Stark, at the threat of a wider conflict in the Gulf, possibly involving the superpowers.

Rashid Abdullah Al Nuaimi, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) minister of state for foreign affairs, said the ministers discussed united security strategies and military cooperation at their opening session here.

Quoted by the Arab News newspaper, he said the delegates from Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar and Oman — the six GCC states — would also review efforts by the United Nations Security Council to frame a resolution aimed at ending the war.

Mr. Nuaimi was chairman for the closed discussions.

Both the United States and the Soviet Union, reassessing their military presence in the Gulf, are studying plans to increase their forces in the region to protect their merchant ships against Iranian or Iraqi attacks.

In a related development, the Soviet Union does not intend to add to its force of three small warships in the Gulf despite its worry about U.S. plans in the region, the New York Times reported.

The newspaper, quoting an interview with Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister Yuli Vorontsov, said Moscow was discussing ways to ensure freedom of shipping in the Gulf and the Indian Ocean with Iran, Iraq, India and other nations.

Mr. Vorontsov said the Kremlin had also proposed talks with the United States on ways to stop the nearly seven-year-old Gulf war but had received no answer.

The newspaper said Mr. Vorontsov declined to be quoted directly, but authorised use of his remarks.

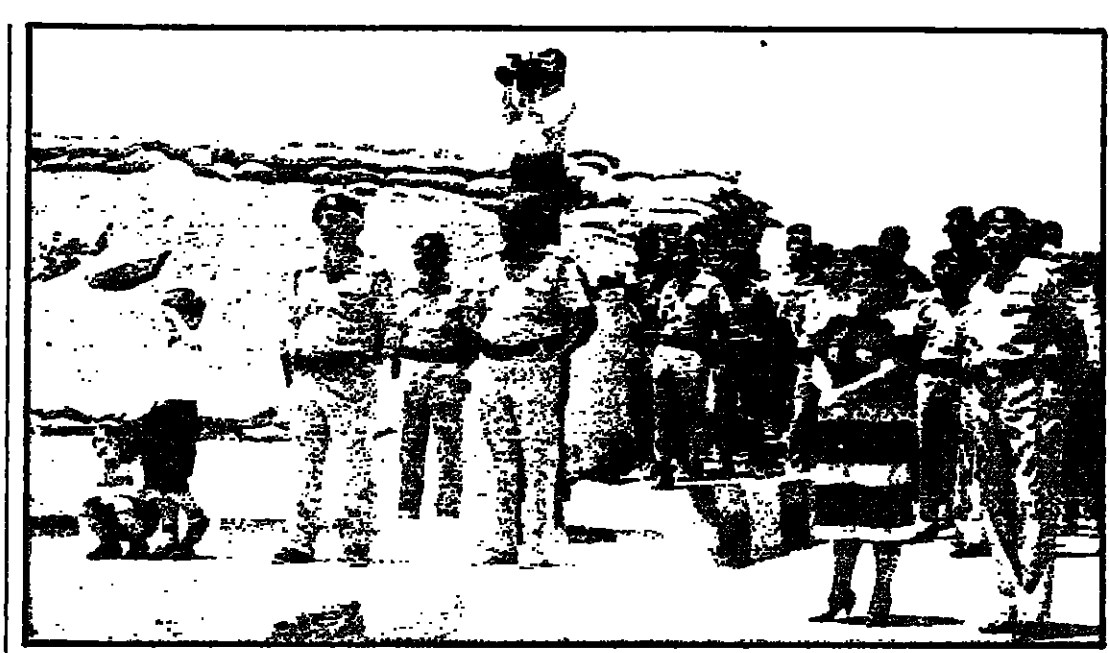
In the wide-ranging interview he also said the Soviet Union was aiming for a summit between President Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev in Washington.

Meeting reportedly planned between Sharaa and Aziz

AMMAN (J.T.) — The foreign ministers of Syria and Iraq are expected to meet at a Jordanian border point in the next few days, the Qatari News Agency (QNA) reported Sunday.

The agency, quoting well-informed sources, said the planned meeting of Farouk Al Sharaa of Syria and Tariq Aziz of Iraq was expected to pave the way for a summit between Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and Iraqi President Saddam Hussein. The summit, the agency said, will be held in Jordan later this month and other Arab leaders are likely to take part in the meeting.

Mr. Sharaa is due in Amman on Wednesday as member of a Syrian delegation headed by Prime Minister Abdul Raouf Al Kasm. The delegation will attend



KING ATTENDS GRADUATION: His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, Sunday attends the graduation ceremony of a group of security and protection officers. The King distributed certificates to the graduates and prizes to excellent cadets in the course. The graduation ceremony was attended by members of the Royal family, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Fathi Abu Taleb, Public Security Department Director Lieutenant General Abdul Hadi Al Majali and high-ranking army officers (Petra photo).

Hoss asks Gemayel to act against Karami killers or quit

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Acting Prime Minister Salim Hoss demanded Sunday that President Amin Gemayel should either take action against the assassins of Prime Minister Rashid Karami, or resign.

The statement worsened the deepening crisis that threatens to rekindle civil war fighting and solidify the partition of Lebanon into sectarian mini-states.

"His silence is deafening," said Mr. Hoss of Mr. Gemayel's failure to say anything about the progress of investigations into Mr. Karami's assassination a week ago.

"We demand that the president take a historic stand like the speaker of parliament did," Mr. Hoss added in a statement broadcast by Beirut Radio.

Parliament Speaker Hussein Husseini resigned Friday. He accused Mr. Gemayel of failing to crack down on right-wing extremists who Muslim leaders contend murdered Mr. Karami.

"The door to solution seems locked. The key is with one man and if we ask the head of state, the president, to take a historic stand on the issue," Mr. Hoss, a Sunni Muslim, said.

Political sources told Reuters Mr. Hoss' challenge to Mr. Gemayel was probably a call for the assassins to be named, not a veiled demand for the president to resign.

Mr. Husseini's resignation has added weight to charges by militia leaders Walid Junblatt and Nabih Berri that the army and Christian "Lebanese Forces" militia rigged the bomb.

Mr. Junblatt has said Mr. Gemayel is implicated too.

Mr. Berri said Saturday that investigators into the bomb blast were in constant touch with him as justice minister and that he believed the "Lebanese Forces" were responsible.

Mr. Berri said the bomb was rigged at the Adma army air base in the Christian enclave northeast of Beirut and that Lebanon was "on the brink of a dangerous partition" over the affair.

Gemayel defends army

Shortly after Mr. Hoss spoke, President Gemayel was quoted as defending the army against charges that it was involved in the murder of Mr. Karami.

"I will not accept at all making the army into a scapegoat," the 44-year-old president told visitors at his home town of Bikfaya, northeast of Beirut.

It was Mr. Gemayel's first public response to the charges from

Venice summit opens today

VENICE (Agencies) — Seven Western leaders made final preparations Sunday for their economic summit that also will focus on security issues such as the Gulf war and arms control in Europe.

The leaders of the United States, Japan, Britain, West Germany, France, Canada and Italy, beginning their annual meeting on Monday, are not expected to announce any monetary or fiscal initiatives.

U.S. President Ronald Reagan, instead, emphasised an emerging U.S.-Soviet agreement to remove hundreds of nuclear-tipped missiles from Europe and the threats to shipping posed by the war between Iran and Iraq.

Before the summit, Mr. Reagan sent letters to the other leaders calling for western solidarity in keeping open Gulf waters where attacks on neutral shipping threaten the flow of Middle East oil.

Of greatest concern are Chinese-made Silkorm missiles sold to Iran. Mr. Reagan's national security adviser, Frank Carlucci, said Saturday that Iran already has received 20 of the ship-killing rockets and that more are on order.

The Western leaders meeting here are also expected to try to forge closer cooperation on combating terrorism and fighting the deadly disease AIDS.

Two Italian missile-equipped frigates, backed by patrol launches and armoured helicopters, have sealed off the conference venue, the Venetian island of San Giorgio, a five-minute boat ride across the lagoon from St. Mark's Square.

The leaders are coming with their own agendas for the June 8-10 meeting. But none of them will want to rock the allied gondola.

Mr. Reagan, who arrived in Italy on Wednesday to prepare for the summit and meet Pope John Paul, is determined to prove that he is still capable of strong leadership despite his problems at home, where he is beset by a frequently hostile Congress and the Iran-contra arms scandal.

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is partly staking her future at Venice. The 61-year-old Conservative leader faces elections on the day after the summit and is hoping to use her presence among world leaders to deliver a knockout blow against her socialist challenger, Labour leader Neil Kinnock.

Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney was the first to join Mr. Reagan when he arrived early Sunday at Marco Polo airport, now closed to all but summit-related traffic.

West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl will be attempting to stave off allied pressure to force West Germany, one of the economic powerhouses of the seven, to go for expansion to help ward off a threatened global recession.

On May 29, Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone announced a \$42 billion package to stimulate Japan's economy and suck in more exports, a measure designed to head off "Japan bashing" at the summit.

Mr. Nakasone is another of the summit's lame ducks. He is due to bow out as prime minister when party rules force him to step down as leader of his Liberal Democratic Party in October.

The Italians, also holding parliamentary elections this week, are the lamest of them all.

The host country is led by caretaker Prime Minister Amintore Fanfani, a Christian Democrat who will be able to do little more than act as moderator.

In an Italian newspaper interview, Mr. Fanfani said Sunday he did not think Venice was the proper forum to resolve the Gulf security issue and suggested the United Nations would be better suited to handle it.

French socialist President Francois Mitterrand and right-wing Prime Minister Jacques Chirac will continue their pre-election sparring by arriving at different times and keeping to separate programmes.

Carlucci and Baker warn Iran against deploying missiles in Gulf

VENICE (Agencies) — U.S. President Ronald Reagan's top aides on Sunday mounted a campaign of tough talk to dissuade Iran from deploying Chinese-made Silkorm anti-ship missiles along the Gulf.

"It would be very unhelpful for them to try to use these missiles to interfere with freedom of navigation," said National Security Council Adviser Frank Carlucci.

White House Chief of Staff Howard Baker said "the world would be better off and frankly Iran would be better off" if the missiles were not deployed.

"Iran should think very hard about deployment," Mr. Baker added.

The warnings from the Reagan administration came only hours after Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Hossein Sheikholeslam said Iran would strike back if the United States intervened militarily in the Gulf.

"If the Americans make the mistake of attacking us, we will definitely strike back. If they attack us inside our country, we will attack them inside their country. If they attack our ships we will attack their ships," he told reporters in Vienna.

In Venice, Mr. Carlucci said Iran's acquisition of the radar-guided Silkorms "adds a new dimension" to the threat to vital sea lanes in the Gulf region.

The missiles have a range of about 80 kilometres and are about three times more powerful than the Iraqi missile which killed 37 Americans aboard the frigate Stark on May 17.

Mr. Baker, in an impromptu meeting with reporters outside his hotel in Venice, said that putting the missiles in place near the Strait of Hormuz would be "an escalation of a weapons system... a dangerous thing, that Iran would be better off not to do."

Asked whether that meant the United States was prepared to launch a preemptive strike against the missiles, Mr. Baker avoided a direct answer, saying, "I don't think the United States ought to say what it's going to do."

In Washington, U.S. officials on Sunday discounted an Iranian claim of responsibility for the Iraqi missile attack on the Stark.

Hamid Sadeki, an official of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard, said Sunday that the Iraqi pilot acted on instructions from Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's government.

But State Department spokeswoman Sondra McCarty said U.S. officials had no reason to believe that Tehran was behind the attack.

"Our investigation gave no indication of any such involvement," she said.

Asked if the United States would be willing to listen to any supporting information the Iranians offer, McCarty said: "I can only refer you back to our original statement."

Iraq has said the attack was accidental and apologised to the United States.

"Iran is responsible for the attack on the American frigate in the Gulf," said Mr. Sadeki in a speech at a mass rally in the South Lebanese town of Nmeirich. "The decision was taken in Tehran and Iraqi tools carried it out."

"Iran is willing to appear before a public court of inquiry in the United States to prove its responsibility and reveal all details of the operation," according to Mr. Sadeki.

Tehran's official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) said Sunday Iran's Revolutionary Guards corps was ready to carry out Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani's warning against American intervention in the Gulf.

The agency said the corps announced its "full readiness" in a statement issued at its headquarters in Tehran Saturday.

Mr. Rafsanjani, who represents Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini in the Iranian supreme defence council, warned the Gulf Arab countries during public prayers Friday that Iranian forces would raid any military facilities granted to the United States on their territory.

In his comments in Vienna, Mr. Sheikholeslam indicated that Iran was open to mediation to defuse tension in the Gulf region.

"We are prepared to accept help from other countries in the Gulf," Mr. Sheikholeslam told reporters.

"Problems concerning the war are so complicated that they cannot be solved in the short term, but the problem in the Gulf is urgent, critical and solvable," he said.

Kuwait may turn to Moscow if U.S. deal fails to materialise; Washington faces uphill task in efforts for arms ban, page 2

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Kuwait may turn to Moscow if Congress opposes flag deal

KUWAIT (Agencies) — Kuwait is likely to seek more help from Moscow to protect its shipping against Iranian attacks if the American Congress opposes a deal to put half its tankers fleet under the U.S. flag, diplomatic and political sources say.

Plans to reflag 11 Kuwaiti tankers to give them U.S. naval protection in the Gulf have sparked fears in Washington that the United States could become embroiled in the Iran-Iraq war.

Iran, retaliating for Iraqi strikes against its vessels and oil installations, has stepped up attacks against shipping associated with Kuwait because of its support for Baghdad.

Kuwait, lying only 80 kilometres from the warfront and with more crude oil per square mile than any other country, has chartered three Soviet oil tankers and agreed to lease more if the reflagging deal gets derailed, political sources said.

They said a proposal to put Kuwaiti tankers under the Soviet flag had also been discussed and apparently remained an option.

"Kuwait, I believe, would be prepared to turn to Moscow," a Western diplomat said. "And don't forget the Stinger snub."

Three years ago, the United States turned down a Kuwaiti request to buy hand-held Stinger

anti-aircraft missiles after the pro-Israel lobby argued they could fall into the hands of guerrillas hostile to Israel.

Washington instead approved an \$85 million arms package for Kuwait with other air defences, but the emirate later signed a major weapons deal with Moscow said by local newspapers to be worth over \$300 million.

It included SAM missiles, the Soviet equivalent of the Stingers. Kuwait, a country of 18,000 square kilometres and 1.7 million people, established diplomatic ties with the Soviet Union soon after gaining independence from Britain in 1961.

It was the only Gulf Arab state to have formal relations with Moscow until the United Arab Emirates and Oman followed suit within the last two years.

U.S. officials defending the reflagging deal have argued against creating more openings for Moscow to extend its influence in the region.

Opposition in the United

States to the reflagging deal follows disillusionment in Kuwait and other Gulf Arab countries over U.S. Middle East policies and arms sales to Tehran.

Especially galling to Kuwait, diplomats said, was the idea that the sales were to help free U.S. hostages held in Lebanon by pro-Iranian groups.

Kuwait has taken what one Western diplomat called "a rejection stand against terrorism" by rejecting demands by the Islamic Jihad (holy war) group to free convicted bombers in exchange for the release of U.S. and French captives in Lebanon.

Meanwhile a high ranking Soviet official was reported Sunday as saying the Soviet Union has no plans to increase its force of three small warships in the Gulf despite its apprehension about U.S. plans to build up its fleet there.

The New York Times quoted Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Yuri Vorontsov as saying the Soviets were engaged in discussions with Iran, Iraq, India and other countries on ways to assure freedom of shipping in the Gulf and the Indian Ocean.

Mr. Vorontsov reportedly told the Times that the Kremlin had proposed such talks with the United States but had not yet re-

ceived an answer.

Mr. Vorontsov also said the Soviet Union was aiming for a summit meeting in Washington in October. He expressed optimism that Soviet-American differences on a treaty to eliminate intermediate and shorter-range nuclear missiles in Europe would soon be overcome.

Moscow has had hints there have been talks between the warring nations of Iran and Iraq on assuring freedom of shipping in the Gulf, Mr. Vorontsov was quoted as saying, but apparently there have been no results.

Mr. Vorontsov said the Soviets would like to hold talks with the United States on stopping the 60-year-old Gulf war, providing safety of shipping and assuring that the presence of U.S. and Soviet warships in the waterway would not lead to incidents.

Mr. Vorontsov was quoted as saying he felt there were disputed points between the two countries on the issue of an intermediate-range missile accord. But he said he expected a meeting in Washington this summer between Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and Secretary of State George Shultz, and a summit later in the fall, the newspaper said.

2 Britons expelled from Iran already in U.K.

LONDON (R) — The Foreign Office made no immediate response Saturday to Iran's expulsion of five British diplomats, but said two already were in Britain and that three more dependents have left Iran as a precaution.

A Foreign Office spokesman said the officials dealing with the dispute will spend the weekend consulting over a report by Christopher MacRae, head of the British mission in Tehran.

One of the diplomats ordered to leave within the week is second-ranking envoy Edward Chaplin, whose detention and beating in Tehran on May 28 led to the expulsion of five Iranian diplomatic staff from Britain.

Foreign Office Minister Timothy Renton said Saturday that he understood that Iran would drop charges against Chaplin. The specific charges have not been made public, but British officials said they were false and could not be pressed anyway because Mr. Chaplin has full diplomatic immunity.

Three British diplomats and seven dependents return to London from Iran on Friday.

U.S. faces uphill struggle for U.N. arms embargo in Gulf war

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The United States has been trying to strengthen U.N. peacemaking efforts in the Iran-Iraq war, but credibility problems and the political and economic interests of other countries have impeded progress, diplomats say.

The measure U.S. officials have proposed in negotiations with the four other permanent members of the U.N. Security Council — China, Britain, France and the Soviet Union — is a worldwide arms embargo against whichever country doesn't accept a cease-fire. In the past, this has been Iran.

The U.S. effort, launched at the United Nations in late January, comes at a time of embarrassing revelations that the United States secretly sold weapons to Iran in 1985-86 in an effort to free American hostages held by Iranian-influenced kidnappers in Lebanon.

Those sales ran counter to "Operation Staunch," a U.S. programme started in 1983 to persuade U.S. allies not to sell arms to Iran. The secret sales have damaged U.S. credibility in the world body, said diplomats who spoke on the condition of not being identified.

If it got past the permanent members, the embargo would need the approval of the full

15-nation Security Council, which includes several countries dependent on oil passing through the Gulf. Those countries fear Iranian retaliation against their oil shipments if they go along with an arms embargo, a diplomat said.

"Who wants to harm their trade relations?" asked the diplomat. "Japan gets 60 per cent of its oil through the Gulf. Are they going to mortgage their future relations with Iran? They have to think hard before they do that."

Adoption of an arms embargo does not guarantee compliance, as demonstrated by the one the Security Council imposed in 1977 against South Africa. It has been violated by numerous countries.

According to sources at the United Nations and in Washington, all speaking on the condition of not being identified, the five permanent council members have agreed to the first part of a settlement package on the Gulf war. It includes a call for a cease-fire, a return to pre-war borders and negotiations on a long-term solution.

The Security Council has included those points in nearly all seven resolutions it has adopted since the war started in September 1980. Generally, Iraq has accepted them and Iran has not, so the new U.S. proposal for an arms embargo is aimed at forcing

Iran to comply. It is the arms embargo, contained in the second part of the settlement plan under the heading "enforcement measures," that has divided the five permanent council members, diplomats say.

To restore credibility and strengthen their bargaining position, U.S. officials, including the man in charge of "Operation Staunch," have been trying to distance themselves from the arms-for-hostages affair.

"The people who are running the Operation Staunch were not involved in any way in sales to Iran, so our effort was always straightforward here and we have done our best in the past few months to restore our credibility," said Edward J. Derwinski, head of the State Department Office on Arms Transfers. "It was a case of saying to everybody...yes it was a contradiction to our Staunch policy but the record is clear and Staunch continues properly."

Mr. Derwinski conceded in a telephone interview from Washington that even if the Security Council endorses the U.S. proposal, some weapons will seep through on the black market. He said they would likely be less sophisticated and more expensive.

'Missiles fired before Stark warned Iraqi jet'

MIAMI (R) — The USS Stark did not try to warn an Iraqi warplane to prevent it attacking until more than a minute after the jet had launched its two deadly missiles against the frigate and was headed home, the Miami Herald reported.

In an article published in its Sunday editions, the Herald said it obtained the information — which contradicts accounts given shortly after the incident — from U.S. and Iraqi records, including evidence from a U.S. early warning airborne surveillance (AWACS) plane.

The Herald quoted a congressman investigating the tragedy as saying that minutes before the May 17 attack which killed 37 sailors aboard the frigate, the Stark's tactical action officer twice dismissed suggestions from another officer that he warn the jet it was approaching a U.S. ship.

The Herald also reported that Pentagon records showed that six minutes before the Stark issued its two warnings to the plane, two

nearby U.S. ships told the Stark that the Iraqi plane was down on it.

The newspaper quoted Congressman Larry Hopkins, a Kentucky Republican, as saying that a petty officer in the Stark's combat Information Centre monitoring the ship's radar, expressed concern over the jet's intentions when it was within 43 miles.

Mr. Hopkins, a member of the House Armed Services Committee investigating the incident, said Stark Captain Glenn Brindel and the ship's tactical action officer were the senior officers present in the combat centre as the plane approached, according to the Herald.

"At about 43 miles out, the petty officer asked: 'Should we warn this plane?' He was told 'no' by the tactical action officer," Mr. Hopkins told the Herald in an interview.

Mr. Hopkins said that when the jet was 40 miles away, the petty officer again asked whether he should warn the pilot and was

again told no.

Mr. Hopkins said he learned of the exchanges from one of his aides, who recently returned from the Gulf where the aide interviewed the Stark's tactical action officer and other crew members.

A formal navy board of inquiry is investigating the actions of the Stark's captain, tactical action officer and two other officers, the Herald said.

According to U.S. and Iraqi data made available by the Pentagon, the ship's crew did nothing to deter the attack as the plane continued its course toward the Stark for more than 20 miles, the Herald reported.

The Stark issued two warnings 37 seconds apart to the Iraqi jet, according to the Herald.

But the newspaper reported that evidence from a U.S. Air Force AWACS plane over the Gulf suggests that the Iraqi warplane had fired its Exocet missiles and turned home more than a minute earlier.

The Stark's warnings came at

the same time the missiles' internal radar switched on in flight, enabling the ship to detect them, the Herald said.

The first missile struck the ship 28 seconds after the second warning and the second missile struck 25 seconds later, the Herald said.

The Iraqi pilot did not respond to the warnings, according to the newspaper.

Iraqi military officials told Pentagon investigators that their pilot heard nothing despite the fact that he was monitoring the radio warning frequency, the Herald reported.

The Pentagon said the AWACS received both warnings, the newspaper said.

The Herald said the new information contradicts parts of earlier official U.S. accounts of the incident.

On May 19, Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger said: "The ship had queried the plane as to its intentions... They were not responded to by the Iraqi plane, and the attack came immediately after that."

Israeli cabinet names new ambassador to Washington

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel's cabinet Sunday appointed career diplomat Moshe Arad ambassador to Washington after months of political wrangling over the prestigious post, said a spokesman for Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

The United States must

approve the appointment of the 53-year-old diplomat before he can assume the job, the spokesman said after the weekly cabinet meeting.

Arad's last post was ambassador to Mexico. He was an embassy information officer in Washington after the 1973 war.

Afghan prime minister ends visit to Baghdad

BAGHDAD (R) — Afghanistan and Iraq strengthened economic and cultural ties in a four-day visit to Baghdad by Prime Minister Sultan Ali Kishmnd which ended Sunday.

The two sides signed an agreement on trade, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation and

Mr. Kishmnd also had talks with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan.

The Gulf war and other regional issues figured in his talks. Kabul and Baghdad have a common adversary in Iran's Islamic revolutionary government

Self-styled patriots reveal hidden pockets in Iran scandal

WASHINGTON (AP) — This week in the Iran-contra hearings, the cloak of patriotism embraced by some of the key players in the Iran-contra affair was unravelled to reveal hidden pockets.

Though plenty of mystery remains along the money trail, investigators from the House of Representatives and Senate produced mounting evidence that the secret sale of taxpayer-owned arms to Iran produced private profits.

The revelations included: — Retired Air Force Gen. Richard Secord, who earlier testified to the House-Senate committees that he had forsworn personal gain in the "enterprise," used some of the funds to buy a Porsche sports car and an airplane, according to his Iranian-born partner, Albert Hakim.

— Mr. Hakim, the operation's banker, also described several schemes designed to benefit L-C Oliver North, the White House aide who recruited himself and Gen. Secord. Though some of these were not implemented, Mr. Hakim said, a \$200,000 Swiss bank account was set up as a "death benefit" for Col. North's family, and the former National Security Council aide stood to gain control of a \$2 million fund should Gen. Secord and Mr. Hakim die.

— Mr. Hakim said \$8.07 million in arms profits remains in accounts in London and Switzerland. He said there was an agreement calling for himself, Gen. Secord and former CIA agent Thomas Clines to each take 30 per cent shares, with the other 10 per cent going to a company

owned by himself and Gen. Secord.

Mr. Hakim, a private U.S. citizen who did not have a security clearance, also told of participating in the secret negotiations between American officials and the Iranian government. Among other things, he said the U.S. team told the Iranians that the United States would try to depose the president of Iraq and would fight alongside Iran if the Soviet Union attempted to invade.

Part of the objective of Col. North and the U.S. team, he said, was to gain the release of American hostages "to support the president... or the Republicans (Ronald Reagan's party)" before the 1986 elections. Meanwhile, the committees postponed until mid-July their plans to compel Col. North to testify under a grant of limited immunity, thereby giving independent counsel Lawrence E. Walsh more time to prepare a possible criminal case against him.

Mr. Hakim's testimony contradicted that of Gen. Secord's on several fronts, virtually ensuring that Gen. Secord will be recalled by the panels. Senator Paul Trible said that despite Gen. Secord's claim that he renounced any profit, "the evidence shows that nearly \$350,000 was transferred to Secord's benefit," including money to buy a Porsche, a Piper Seneca airplane and \$2,300 for a trip to a "fat farm (weight reduction centre)."

Both Gen. Secord and Mr. Hakim refused to waive their claim to the millions remaining in the overseas accounts. Gen. Secord reiterated Satur-

day that he made no money from the Iran arms sales and said he was eager to reappear before the Iran-contra investigating committees to tell his side of the story, the New York Times reported in its Sunday editions.

"I don't see how they can call me a profiteer," he told the Times in an interview. "I'm not a profiteer and to keep on claiming that is simply false. We were trying to do a job for the president, and we did the best we could."

The week began with admissions by Assistant Secretary of State Elliott Abrams, the administration's "point man" on Nicaragua, that he had misled Congress on several occasions about efforts to resupply the Contras at a time when Congress had banned direct U.S. military assistance.

But Mr. Abrams, who personally solicited \$10 million from the nation of Brunei for the private effort, vowed he would remain on the job, despite claims by Democratic congressmen that he could no longer be an effective spokesman for the administration's Central America policy.

The chairman of the special Senate panel on the Iran-contra affair, Daniel Inouye, said Mr. Hakim's testimony amounted to a "sad two days... I just hope the people of the United States realise that."

Vice Chairman Warren Rudman, noting the patriotic tones sounded by Gen. Secord and others, declared: "I always resent people who wrap themselves in the flag while spitting on the constitution."

On Monday, the House-Senate Panels will hear from Bretton Sciaroni, the government lawyer who wrote the legal opinions which Col. North has cited as authorising his activities. Then it will call Fawn Hall, North's former secretary, who reportedly has told investigators she helped Col. North destroy documents in the case.

Meanwhile the Jerusalem Post reported Friday that the main Iranian intermediary involved in the ill-fated U.S. arms initiative toward Iran was described as a former Iranian intelligence official under the shah who was later "recruited" by Israel.

In sworn testimony before the joint House-Senate panel Mr. Hakim said that Manucher Ghorbanifar was "a former Soviet agent recruited by Israel."

Mr. Hakim's statement — if shown to be true — could potentially represent a major embarrassment for Israel. In the early stages of the affair, Israeli officials repeatedly vouched for the reliability and credibility of Ghorbanifar as someone with good contacts to the revolutionary leadership in Tehran. Ghorbanifar was not presented as someone with ties to Israeli intelligence.

Over the past several months, there have been some suspicious expressions privately by some U.S. investigators that Israel may have "set up" the U.S. to get involved in the entire arms initiative toward Iran in order to advance Israeli interests.

This accusation would clearly be strengthened if Ghorbanifar was indeed working for Israel during this period.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:50 Programme Review
15:55 Cartoons and children's programme
17:45 World of Strange Powers
17:40 Arabic play
18:30 Local debate
19:00 Science and Life (Arabic)
19:40 Message from Queen
20:00 News in Arabic
21:00 Arabic Series
21:50 Cultural panel discussion
22:40 Arab Scholars
23:30 News Summary in Arabic
23:10 Arab Scholars continued

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Marie Perle (French comedy)

19:00 News in French
19:15 Sport magazine (French)
20:00 News in Hebrew
20:45 Magazine Zero One
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Three Up, Two Down
21:10 Magnum
22:00 News in English
22:20 Whose Baby? (mini series)

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM & partly on 95.50 KHz. SW Tel. 774111-19

07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsdesk
08:00 Morning Show
08:30 News Summary
08:45 Just a Minute
09:00 Follow the Wind
09:30 News Summary
09:45 30 Minute Theatre
10:00 News Summary
10:15 Pop Session Contd.
10:40 News
10:45 Just a Minute
10:50 Concert Hour
10:55 News Summary
11:00 Instrumental
11:05 Newsdesk
11:10 Old Favorites
11:15 Men from the Ministry
11:20 Pop Session
11:25 News Summary
11:30 Sports Roundup
11:35 News
11:40 Newsdesk
11:45 Date with a Star
11:50 News Summary
12:00 Evening Show Contd.
12:05 News Summary
12:05 Evening Show Continued

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1233 KHz

07:00 Newsdesk 07:30 Madeline Bovary
07:45 Reflections 07:50 Waveguide
08:00 World News 08:20 24 Hours
08:30 News Summary 08:30 Nature Notebook 08:45 Recording of the Week
08:50 Newsdesk 09:30 Premier Elections 10:00 World News 10:30 24 Hours
10:45 News Summary 10:50 The Waiting Room 11:00 World News
11:05 Radio Newsworld 11:15 Brain Busters
11:20 World News 11:30 British Press Review 12:15 Good Books 12:30 Financial News: Look Ahead 12:45 Football: Choice 12:50 News Summary
12:55 The Father of Polish Cinema 13:30 The Vintage Chart Show 14:00 World News 14:05 News About Britain 14:15 Sportsround 14:30 Album Time 15:00 Radio Newsworld 15:15 Brain Busters
15:45 Sports Round-up 16:00 World News 16:05 24 Hours: News Summary
16:30 Recording of the Week 16:45 Sportsround 17:00 News Summary
17:05 Outlook 17:45 The Adventure of the Bruce-Partington Plans 18:00 Radio Newsworld 18:15 The Father of Polish Cinema 18:45 Gendwini: Among Friends 19:00 World News 19:05 Commentary 19:15 Uncovered Kings 19:30 Beecham's Lollipop 20:15 The History of Radio Comedy 20:30 New Ideas
20:40 Book Choice 20:15 The History of Radio Comedy 20:30 Sports Round-up
21:00 Newsdesk 21:30 Sports Roundup
21:35 Newsdesk 21:50 News Summary
22:00 Vintage Chart Show 22:30 Financial News 02:15 The Racing Game
02:30 Financial News

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260 & SW 720, 955, 1740, 11925 and 12510 KHz

05:00 News 05:10 Newsline 05:30 VOA Morning 06:00 News 06:10 Newsline
06:30 VOA Morning 07:00 News 07:10 Newsline 07:30 VOA Morning 08:00 News
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24:00 News 24:10 Newsline 24:30 VOA Morning 24:45 News 24:55 Newsline

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* An art exhibition by Ibrahim Arar at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel (until June 11).

* An exhibition of photos at the UNESCO's regional office in Amman on the occasion of the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless (until June 8).

* An art exhibition by Lebanese artist Jassem Tabbakh at the Petra Bank Gallery — Wadi Saqra.

CINEMA

* "Freem Carman" at 8:00 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre.

FEATURE FILM

* "A Chorus Line" at 7:00 p.m. at the American Centre.

SYMPOSIUM

* The Armenian Centre is participating with the Royal Automobile Club, the U.S. Agency for International Development, and other Jordanian and international institutions in a conference on Modern Trends in Traffic and Transport at the Royal Cultural Centre (until June 11).

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267
American Centre 644371
French Cultural Centre 631478
German Cultural Centre 631478
Goethe Institute 641993
Soviet Cultural Centre 644203
Spanish Cultural Centre 624049
Turkish Cultural Centre 639777
Haya Arts Centre 663195
Hussein Youth City 667816
Y.W.C.A. 641793
American Municipal Library 644251
Univ. of Jordan Library 843555

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Amman, Tel. 624590
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Lweibdeh, Tel. 637440
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Hussein, Tel. 661757
Terresanta Church (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Lweibdeh, miss in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5:30 p.m. Tel. 622366
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, Tel. 623441
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabbal Amman, Tel. 625383
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 772561
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, Tel. 771751
Armenian International Church (Interdenominational) meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeizani, Tel. 675354
Evangelical Lutheran Church, Amman, Arabic Service: Sunday 7:00 p.m. Rainbow Communion, English Service: Saturday 6:30 p.m. Rev. N. Smir, Tel. 812955.

MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science Museum" Fun and knowledge for all

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

10:00 Agaba (RJ)
10:15 Cairo (RJ)
10:30 Larnaca (RJ)
10:45 Damascus (RJ)
10:50 Muscat, Dubai (RJ)
10:55 Kuwait (RJ)
11:00 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (RJ)
11:10 Baghdad (RJ)
11:15 Vienna, New York (RJ)
11:20 Athens (RJ)
11:25 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
11:30 Bucharest (RJ)
11:35 Bangkok (RJ)
00:55 Baghdad (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

07:00 Cairo, London (BA)
11:00 Cairo (MS)
14:05 Cairo (MS)
14:45 Bahrain, Doha (GF)
15:35 Kuwait (KU)
16:20 Ankara, Istanbul (TK)
16:30 Baghdad (IA)
01:00 Paris (AF)

MONEY EXCHANGE

Local selling rates in Jds

Building contractors look abroad to ease cramped home markets

AMMAN (R) — Building contractors in Jordan, cramped by a rapidly dwindling market at home, have set their sights on construction projects in the wider Arab market abroad.

"We should start facing the situation now," said Ali Abu Al Ragheb, president of the newly-formed Jordan Contractors' Association.

"Until 1982, we all had enough work and didn't bother much about the competition. But it became a problem as recession and unemployment began to bite," he told Reuters.

Construction activity in Jordan dropped by 27.4 per cent last year from a peak of 3.1 million square metres of site development in 1982, according to Central Bank figures.

Arab countries spent some \$250 billion on construction projects in the oil boom years of 1972-83, a level which, says the



Ali Abu Al Ragheb

Abu Dhabi-based Arab Monetary Fund, dropped drastically with the decline in oil revenues.

The fund forecasts spending on construction projects in the Arab states of about \$35 to 43 billion by the year 1990 — well

below the \$46 billion spent in 1984.

But experts here say this would still offer lucrative opportunities for those companies ready to take up the challenge.

Jordan has more than 400 firms operating in a crowded and depressed construction sector, employing about 50,000 people — some 17 per cent of the country's workforce.

Most of them are one-man firms which mushroomed during the boom years, and Mr. Al Ragheb says their best chance now is to broaden their base in amalgamation.

"The best way would be through mergers, creating institutionalised companies, financially and technically strong, that can also compete abroad, especially in the Arab World."

He says the government is considering incentives to encourage such a trend.



FACT-FINDING: United Nations fact-finding mission arrived here Sunday for a four-day visit to Jordan during which they will hold talks with Jordanian government officials. The mission, headed by Sri Lanka's permanent envoy to the U.N., Mr. Pereira, will meet with a number of Arab citizens from the occupied Arab territories. The mission, grouping representatives from Senegal and Yugoslavia, has been sent by the U.N. General Assembly to the Middle East to investigate charges of Israel's arbitrary measures and practices against Arab citizens in the occupied territories. The U.N. mission was received upon arrival by Under Secretary of the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs Dr. Ahmad Qatanani and senior officials (Petra photo).

Irbid completes JD 1.25m electrification project

IRBID (Petra) — Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahhab Al Majali attended a ceremony here marking the end of work on the second stage of a project for improving the electric power network in Irbid.

In a speech on the occasion, Mr. Majali said that the government is keen on providing and improving services for the public.

Addressing the ceremony was the director general of the Irbid District Electricity Company (IDEC), Abdul Ra'ouf Al Sheikh, who said that the project is designed to improve electric supply to the eastern and southern districts of the city. This second stage complements the first stage that saw improvements to the network in the northern and eastern districts of Irbid in 1982.

According to an IDEC spokesman, the project aims at ensuring a continuous supply of power to subscribers in all regions, and also feeding districts around

Irbid. According to the spokesman, the project which took 16 months to complete, cost JD 1.25 million. It comprises a main transformer station, ground cables, and distribution station.

The ceremony was attended by Irbid's mayor and governor and other local officials. Before the ceremony, Mr. Majali called at Irbid's governor's house and was briefed on the governorate's projects. He also called at the headquarters of the IDEC to discuss its projects.

Road safety to top agenda for int'l transportation symposium

By Najwa Najjar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Increasing the safety of drivers and passengers in Jordan with effective management of traffic and transport was a main concern of the participants of the first international symposium on modern trends in traffic and transport which opened on Sunday at the Royal Cultural Centre.

In an inaugural address, the patron of the four day seminar, Lieutenant General Abdul Hadi Al Majali said, "Traffic safety is one of our major problems." Traffic and transport need a comprehensive plan, Lt. Gen. Majali said, adding that Jordan has given traffic enforcement courses and is looking for new ways to improve its system.

The subject of traffic accidents

is top on the agenda of the conference, due to the high rate of deaths which result from road accidents in Jordan.

According to Ms. Barbara Good, cultural attaché at the American Centre, who also spoke at the opening session: "Sixteen deaths occur in every 10,000 accidents in Jordan, compared to the U.S. which rates under 10 deaths for every 10,000 accidents."

A recent desert highway accident, in which a head on collision of a bus carrying 54 passengers with a truck, left five people dead and 23 injured, has drawn further attention to the problem Jordan faces.

The main objective of the symposium is to increase transportation safety with efficiency through interdisciplinary approaches. Senior level execu-

tives, educators, enforcement officials, traffic and transport engineers, planners, policy makers and researchers will examine the potential for improving existing transport systems and the development of new systems. Specific attention will be directed to the social, psychologically, legal and medical aspects of road safety and the need for better enforcement of traffic regulations.

The participants, who include representatives from the U.S., United Kingdom, Sweden, United Nations, the Organisation of Arab Cities and other representatives from the Arab World, will discuss the following symposium topics during the working sessions: challenges to transport system management; trade and freight transport; planning methodologies; traffic and transport modelling; the evaluation of educational programmes; driver training programmes; urban planning and enforcement; policing and road user behaviour; publicity and mass media campaigns; emergency aids to accident victims; data collection and analysis; social psychology of the road user; road design vs driver behaviour; information technology and vehicle design; enforcement techniques vs driver behaviour; urban transport policies; technological innovations and transport; and transportation and energy conservation.

The organisers have also arranged for the showing of films, panel discussions and field visits. They include the American Centre, British Council, the Royal Automobile Club of Jordan (RACJ), Public Security Department (PSD), Jordan Roads Society, Civil Defence Department, Jordan University of Science and Technology, Jordan Society for the Prevention of Road Accidents, U.S. Agency for International Aid (USAID), Alpha Centre, United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS) and PTRC London.

On June 11, Dr. Monroe Snyder, chief of the Problem Behaviour and Research Division of the U.S. Department of Transportation, will address the symposium via a live satellite link between the U.S. and Jordan, arranged by the American Centre in Amman. Dr. Snyder will discuss the latest research on road user behaviour being carried out in the U.S. with a panel of Jordanian representative.

Also speaking at the opening session were Mr. Walid Asfour of the RACJ, Mr. David Latta of the British Council and Mr. Louis Reade of USAID. They gave short descriptions of how their organisations have contributed to the development of the Kingdom, and in particular the development of the transportation system.

Journalists tour region under U.N. auspices

AMMAN (Petra) — A group of journalists from the United Nations will arrive here today on a four day visit in the course of a Middle Eastern tour to have a close hand look at the situation in the region and to investigate facts about the Palestine problem.

During the visit, the group which represents 13 different countries will meet with senior government officials and editors of local newspapers.

Their programme also includes visits to the Baqa'a Palestinian refugee camp and the King Hussein bridge across the River Jordan.

The journalists are accompanied by officials from the United Nations public relations and information offices.

The group which will be coming from Egypt will later visit Iraq.

N. Yemen seeks to cooperate in communications

AMMAN (J.T.) — North Yemen has expressed desire to cooperate with Jordan and benefit from its experience and expertise in communications-related fields.

North Yemen's Minister of Communications and Transport Ahmad Al Unsi said that Jordan has made good progress in the communications field, and his country was willing to benefit from such experience.

The minister, who was speaking at a meeting with his Jordanian counterpart, Muhiiddine Al Hussein, said that His Majesty King Hussein's visit to North Yemen had contributed to the development of relations between the two countries, and paved the way for fruitful cooperation.

For his part, Mr. Hussein expressed Jordan's readiness to cooperate with North Yemen in communications and postal affairs.

At the meeting, Ministry of Communications Under Secretary Mansour Ibn Tarif and Director of the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) Mr. Mohammad Shahid-Ismael, who were present at the meeting, spoke about the postal services in Jordan and the TCC's programmes and projects provided for within the Ministry of Communication's five-year national plan.

Jordan, Egypt and Iraq to discuss joint company

AMMAN (Petra) — The ministers of transport of Egypt, Jordan and Iraq are meeting in Amman on June 13 to discuss organisational matters for the establishment of the Arab Maritime Bridge Company (AMBC) to operate a land-sea route linking the three countries through the port city of Aqaba.

Transport Ministry Under Secretary Mu'tazz Al Bilbeisi said that the meeting will be devoted to steps to be taken for bringing the project into being and the commencement of actual work.

The projected company will undertake maritime transport operations, carrying passengers and goods from Nuweibeh in Sinai to Aqaba in Jordan and vice versa, thus linking the Arab orient with the Northern African Arab states, Mr. Bilbeisi said.

The company, he said, will have its own vessels, but in case they require more they can hire vessels owned by any of the three countries.

Each of the participating countries, he said, will facilitate the work of this company which will have its headquarters in Amman with offices in Egypt and Iraq. The company's lease will be for 50 years, starting from the moment the documents for the establishment of the company are endorsed by the respective governments, Mr. Bilbeisi pointed out.

According to Mr. Bilbeisi, the company's capital will initially be \$7 million with each country acquiring an equal share, but this capital is subject to increase in the light of decisions, resolutions and recommendations by the company's general assembly.

At present, Egypt and Jordan have their own national shipping lines, operating between Aqaba and Nuweibeh. But once the tripartite company has been set up, a new joint company will come to light, Mr. Bilbeisi added.

Since the inauguration of the Nuweibeh-Aqaba land-sea route in April 1985, a total of one million passengers have crossed between the two ports and more than 39,600 vehicles have been ferried between the two sides, Mr. Bilbeisi added.

The ministers of transport of the three countries had met in Amman in 1985 and reached tentative agreement on establishing the joint company. All three governments have officially endorsed the idea.

Jewellers group elects new board

AMMAN (J.T.) — The General Association of Owners of Goldsmiths Stores and Jewellery Workshops in Jordan Sunday elected a new nine member board to serve for two years.

The board chairman is Mr. Ghaleb Sakkiha who told the Jordan Times that the election of the board took place at a general association assembly meeting held at the Amman Plaza Hotel following a luncheon hosted in their honour by the hotel management.

A total of 13 candidates ran for the election of whom 10 represented Amman area, two Irbid area and one Zarqa area, Mr. Sakkiha said.

He said that six out of the 10 members running for Amman were elected along with the two candidates from Irbid and one from Zarqa.

He gave the names of the board members as follows: Ghaleb Sakkiha, Thafer Al Sukhun, Akram Msheih, Anwar Jabasini, Zaki Abu Lughod, Anton Lutfi for Amman; Abdulrah Al Huwami and Adel Khouri from Irbid; and Fawzi Es'ifan from Zarqa.

Air France to begin direct flights to Paris

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — France's national carrier, Air France, has launched its first non-stop weekly flight to Paris, the airline's officials announced Sunday. The direct link, aimed at supplementing two other flights that make one-hour transit stops in Damascus, is designed to make Air France more competitive as well as encourage French tourists to visit Jordan.

Mr. Jean Guignonet, the airline's general manager for Jordan, Lebanon and Syria, said that the new flight, which departs on Tuesdays, was aimed at "passengers who may not like to stop in Damascus." It is also the only commercial flight from Amman into Europe on Tuesday.

Mr. Guignonet said the new service was one of a number of recently taken steps towards improving the airline's performance and becoming more competitive in an increasingly shrinking market. The other measures included the introduction of a new first class service (premiere), in addition to the "le club" and economy classes. He said that Air France's competition comes more from national rather than international airlines and that competition was "mostly in prices."

The new link was introduced in accordance with an agreement signed with Royal Jordanian (RJ) and the approval of the civil aviation authority. RJ also has three Paris flights a week. "The agreement (with RJ) stipulates that each airline established three Amman-Paris flights a week," Mr. Guignonet said. "Royal Jordanian are our part-

ners as well as competitors."

According to Mr. Guignonet, the direct flight was also aimed at encouraging tourism to Jordan.

Air France manager for Jordan, Gilbert Muller, said there was a great potential for encouraging tourism to Jordan. He said a total of 11,242 French nationals visited Jordan last year and that the number could double in the coming years. "There is a potential four to five million French travellers out of a total 60 million population," Mr. Muller said. "We could easily get 20,000 of those."

According to an Air France press release, the flight pattern was planned specifically "to support tour operators in organising extended weekends for incentive trips, full week packaging for tourist groups and multi-country tours in the area."

The airline, along with the Amman Marriott Hotel and International Traders, are co-sponsoring an invitation to 25 top French travel journalists to visit Jordan within a tourism promotion effort. The three establishments will also organise a presentation of Jordan's tourist attractions in Paris, Bordeaux and four other major cities in France.

Asked whether the French-British built Concorde supersonic passenger airplane could operate on the Paris-Amman route, Mr. Muller said "it would be very difficult as it has to fly over the sea to go supersonic (because of noise element)," but he added: "Get me 200 Jordanians who would pay JD 500 for a Paris ticket, and I would get you the Concorde." The airplane can travel at 2,400 kilometres per hour.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Ambassador marks Italy's National Day

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Italian Ambassador in Amman and Mrs. Amaduzzi held a reception Sunday, June 7, 1987, on the occasion of Italy's National Day. The reception was attended by key public figures, foreign ambassadors, ministers, journalists and a large audience of invited guests.

Registration of pilgrims begins

AMMAN (Petra) — The registration of pilgrims to Mecca in the coming season began in various areas of Jordan Sunday. A spokesman for the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs said that the registration is taking place in offices of companies entrusted by the ministry to take care of transporting pilgrims to and from the holy places in Saudi Arabia and putting them up at different sites there. The registration process ends, by June 20.

Settlers rampage through West Bank camp

(Continued from page 1)

"Jerusalem is for us, not the Jews," Abdul Halim Ashqar, a university spokesman, told AP. The army command reported it closed Abu Dis Vocational College near Bethlehem until June 21 following an anti-Israeli demonstration in which stones were hurled at an army patrol Saturday.

Four Palestinians were wounded in Israeli gunfire on Saturday. Two Palestinians who broke through an army roadblock in the village of Kabatiyah, near the town of Jenin, were wounded by flying glass and metal when troops shot at their vehicle, reports said.

Kabatiyah was under curfew following a petrol bomb attack on an Israeli vehicle in the area. At Abu Dis College, two Palestinian students were injured when troops opened fire to disperse protesters who threw stones at them, he said.

Relief officials said Israeli military authorities had banned all fishing from the occupied Gaza Strip for the last three weeks following the escape of six Palestinians from a jail in Gaza city.

They said the ban, imposed in the middle of the sardine season, had crippled the Gaza fishing industry, which an estimated 50,000 people depend on for subsistence.

An official of an international relief agency said the fishing ban was a collective economic punishment with no real security grounds.

"The real reason is to punish the local population and try to pressure people into denouncing their neighbours," he said.

"The Israeli navy is quite capable of ensuring that no Gaza fishing boat goes astray or makes a rendezvous at sea. The boats are always under close surveillance," he added.

UNESCO to discuss education

AMMAN (Petra) — The Amman-based United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation's (UNESCO) regional office will open a six-day meeting in Amman on June 22 to discuss cultural and educational issues of concern to the Arab World and to assess technical education in Arab countries since the early 1970s.

The meeting, to be attended by senior officials at the under secretary level, will discuss steps taken by regional states in implementing the 1977 UNESCO resolutions issued at Abu Dhabi in the Gulf. The meeting will also review prospects of improving education systems, including technical education, in the Arab World.

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Getting it together

A three-pronged effort to end the Gulf war between Iran and Iraq is under way. First, there is now an action by the permanent members of the United Nations Security Council in the form of consultations within the framework of the Security Council with a view to end the war as soon as possible. Second, the foreign ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council have just ended their two-day meetings in Jeddah with a bid to address effectively the general situation in the Gulf and the almost seven-year-old war between Iran and Iraq. Third, the Venice economic summit is scheduled also to begin its deliberations in Venice today with the issue of free navigation in the Gulf and the Iran-Iraq war expected to figure very high on the agenda.

Whereas the United Nations Security Council's current consultations aim to impose sanctions in the form of an arms ban against the belligerent state which rejects peace initiatives to end the war, the Gulf Cooperation Council's initiative is expected to examine the possibility of forming a Gulf delegation to mediate between the warring countries. The Venice economic summit is scheduled, on the other hand, to address the armed conflict between Iran and Iraq in the light of the deteriorating situation in the Gulf, especially the issue of free and unhindered navigation. The United States is expected to solicit firm and unqualified support for its initiative which aims to send an armada of Western battleships into the Gulf to assure free navigation, by force if necessary. The other Western countries are likely to stay away from this U.S. initiative and to push instead for international action.

What is needed now is the convergence of all these three approaches in a unified and synthesised manner, which could draw on the positive elements of the three initiatives. There is no doubt that the United Nations Security Council is in the best position to build on the pillars that should be created by the Gulf Cooperation Council's meetings and the Venice economic summit. The Security Council has not only the mandate and jurisdiction to deal effectively with the threat to peace in the Gulf, but also the composition and legitimacy to deal decisively with the Iran-Iraq war.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Ball in the European court

THE Venice summit of the seven major industrialised nations opens tomorrow. Many observers believe that the participating countries will turn their attention to politics as the most important item on the agenda. In that case the Middle East and the Gulf issues will be among the topics to be discussed by the heads of the seven richest nations on earth. The United States wants to benefit from this meeting by urging the European nations to take part in an American-led force for intervention in the Gulf region, a move Washington hopes will further strengthen its influence and impose its hegemony on the countries of the region. Today, the United States has not accepted the idea of an international conference on the Middle East and the Venice summit will reveal one of two facts: either the United States will go along with Europe in accepting the idea of such a conference or will persuade Europe to give up its own ideas about it.

The Europeans will also have to choose whether to get involved in the proposed multinational force for the Gulf or keep aloof, and avoid adventures that would be detrimental to their interests. As we can see, the European nations attending the Venice summit are confronted with a real dilemma, but if the European countries stand fast in the face of Washington's pressures, they could be paving the ground for the long-awaited international conference on the Middle East. The Venice summit should not allow adventurers to have their way lest the world will again find itself facing a dangerous situation.

Al Dustour: Summit faces challenge

ALTHOUGH the Venice meeting starting Monday is primarily devoted to discussing economic issues and trade relations among the Western powers, observers believe that this summit will devote most of its time to major political affairs. It looks as if this summit will be similar to that held in Tokyo last year during which the heads of governments devoted their time to discussing terrorism. Perhaps the most important political issue is the ongoing Gulf conflict and the leaders of the seven nations will no doubt weigh all repercussions and reactions for an intervention in the Gulf region.

As the Venice summit is being held, representatives of major nations are continuing behind-the-scenes contacts at the U.N. Security Council and with the U.N. secretary general to find means for ending the war and imposing sanctions on the party which rejects peace bids. We hope that the Venice summit will come up with a formula, supporting efforts being made at the United Nations. If the world community succeeds in stopping the war the United States will not have to involve itself or its Western allies for that matter in an adventure in the Gulf and the interests of all nations will be safeguarded and peace will be restored.

Sawt Al Shaab: Contradictory move

JORDAN has been warning against moves by Arabs which would help Israel impose its domination on Arab land and perpetuate its occupation of their territory in Jerusalem and the rest of the Palestinian land. Such warnings were aimed at foiling attempts like those made by Hanna Siniora which tend to give support for Israel's plans in the occupied West Bank. Siniora has called on Israel to include Arab citizens in managing Jerusalem municipality. Since Jerusalem is an occupied territory ruled by force by an imposed mayor, Teddy Kolleck, then Siniora's proposal can be considered as conflicting with the resolutions of the United Nations which call on nations to refrain from giving recognition to Israel's annexation.

Siniora's proposal means that he and those who he speaks for are now supporting Israel's ideas about a settlement and tacitly means condoning Israel's measures in the Holy City, including its Judaisation. Since Jerusalem is holy for the Arabs and Muslims no-one has the right to suggest any solution except by calling for its restoration to Arab and Islamic rule.

The chameleon in Israeli politics

By Dr. Waleed Sadi

THERE is no doubt in my mind that the Israeli Likud bloc's rejection of the principle of convening an international peace conference on the Middle East under the auspices of the United Nations is just another ploy to preserve the status quo in the occupied territories and to avoid serious negotiations with the Arab parties which could lead to the implementation of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. The insistence by the Likud on direct negotiations with the Arab parties and on the basis of the Camp David accords format must be viewed against the backdrop of the various Arab summit resolutions which had ruled out negotiations with Israel on the basis of the Camp David accords and outside the umbrella of the United Nations.

The Likud leadership knows only too well that the Arab parties are firmly and permanently locked in the position of principle dictated by the Arab summits and the Likud's insistence on the impossible is tantamount to assuming a bargaining position which aims for the frustration of all peaceful efforts to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict on the basis of U.N. Security Council Resolution 242. Whether negotiations between Israel and the Arab parties are conducted directly or indirectly is not really the issue here because under the concept of a peace conference under United Nations auspices, direct negotiations between the parties are envisaged and accepted. The real issue is whether U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 will be rendered operational in any such negotiations. The way Likud talks about the foundation of the Camp David accords for future negotiations with the remaining Arab parties gives the distinct impression that Israel views the accords as not envisaging the implementation of Resolutions 242

and 338. Upon careful reading of the accords, one readily discovers that not only the Camp David treaty referred to U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 but also incorporated it as well as a cardinal basis for the resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict. It goes without saying that Resolution 242 incorporated the principle of the unlawful acquisition of territory by force, a guideline which is anathema to Likud thinking. By assuming the posture of wanting only the Camp David accords format as basis for negotiations with the Arab parties on the premise that by so doing Israel would escape the dictates and propositions of Resolution 242, Likud in effect is engaged in questionable diversionary tactics with a view to consolidate their militaristic hold over the occupied territories. I suspect that if the parties were to accept the format suggested to them by Likud, the hawkish Israeli party would hasten to create obstacles of substance to frustrate negotiations. There is no escape from the conclusion that Likud has not reconciled itself with the terms of Resolutions 242 and 338 and its constituency does not intend to make territorial compromises with the Arabs.

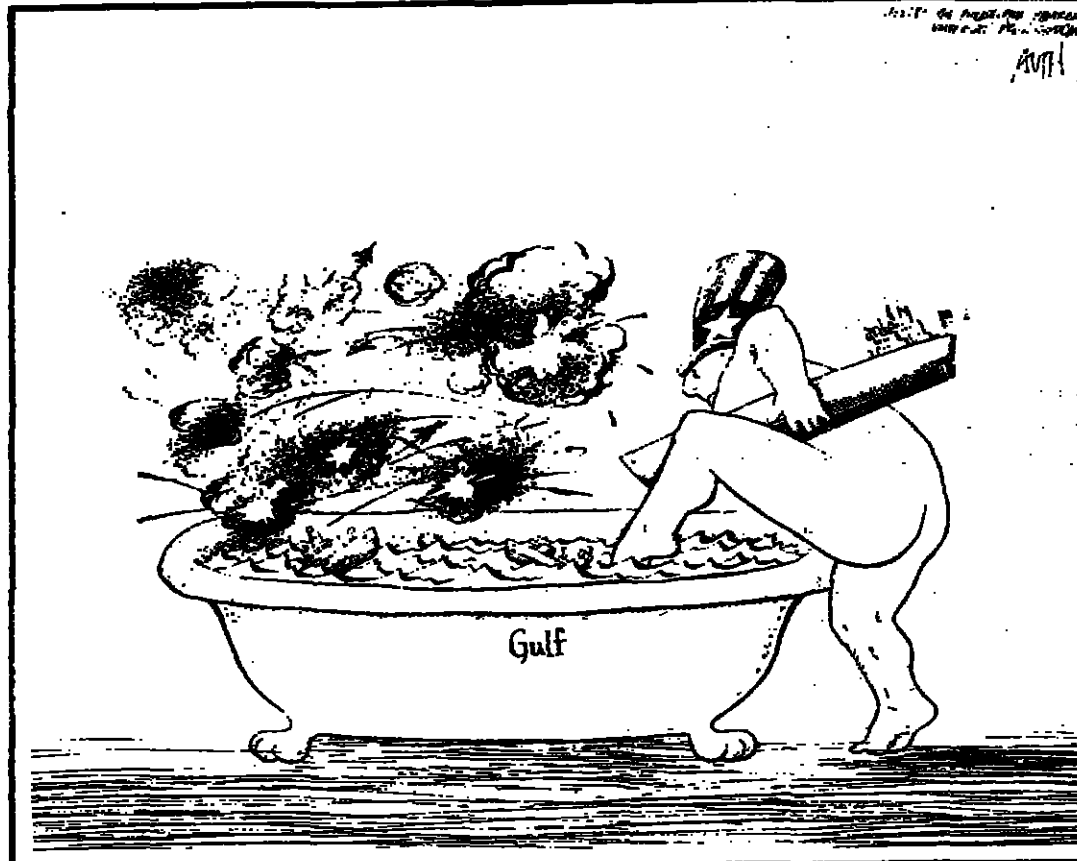
Whether the Labour Party in Israel is any different in substance from the Likud Party is a big question. But if the record of Labour is anything to go by in any attempt to answer this big question, then the answer is rendered simpler.

When Labour enjoyed a stronger mandate from the Israeli electorate and was literally alone in the helm, it was never truly forthcoming on the implementation of Resolutions 242 and 338. Labour had untold number of years to "strike a deal" with the Arabs on the basis of Resolutions 242 and 338 but chose instead to

set the circumstances and events in motion which led ultimately to the 1973 war. Why should we now believe that the Labour of the fifties, sixties and early seventies is any different from the Labour of today? The true colour of the Labour Party had shown more brilliantly during the acrimonious debate which ensued between it and Likud over the projected international peace conference and in which the Labour leadership attempted to out-bid Likud as more of a hardliner in any negotiations with the Arab parties than Likud could ever be. Let us forget, it was the Labour leadership which cited the Camp David accords as evidence that Likud was "softy" in the negotiations with Egypt and that they had sold out the "national interests" of Israel very cheaply by agreeing to total withdrawal from the Sinai.

As the political epoch of the principal quartet in Israeli politics came to a close in a sunset of acrimony, the indications point in the direction of Ariel Sharon as the heir apparent to the Likud leadership and as the principal beneficiary of the current standoff between the present Israeli leaderships. Should Sharon in fact ascend to power by "hook or by crook", then all of us Arabs and Israelis would become in the midst of a new ball game whose dimensions only God knows.

As we in the Arab World mark the 20th anniversary of the 1967 war, we must assume the posture of a good driver: Look forward most of the time but look behind sometimes. Hopefully with the benefit of hindsight and a futuristic vision, visibility becomes enhanced and our course for the future could assume more effective dimensions.



U.S. warships keeping close watch on Iranian air activity in Gulf

By Aly Mahmoud
The Associated Press

BAHRAIN — American warships in the Gulf are closely monitoring Iranian air activity as tension mounts in the strategic waterway over superpower intervention to protect merchant ships from attack by Iranian warplanes and gunboats.

"God help any plane, any pilot, regardless of what nation he belongs, and it could be a very friendly nation, if they come in a pattern that may show hostile intent," Sam Zakheim, the U.S. ambassador to Bahrain, told in an interview.

Iranian leaders have warned the United States and the Soviet Union that Tehran will not be deterred from attacking vessels under the flags of the superpowers or escorted by their warships. The U.S. navy task force in the Gulf was ordered on a "heightened state of alert" after an Iraqi Mirage F-1 attacked the USS Stark May 17, killing 37 American sailors.

Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz said the pilot mistook the U.S. frigate for an Iranian warship.

Admiral William Crowe, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chief of Staff, told the Senate Armed Services Committee in Washing-

ton Friday that so far the Iranians had been "more cautious than usual" since the Stark was hit. But he warned amid Iranian saber rattling that "this situation could change quickly."

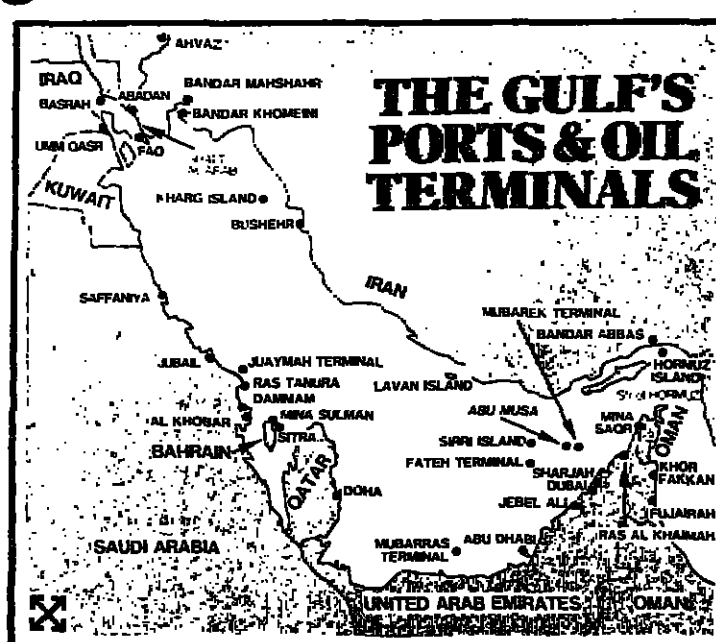
To underline the close surveillance of Iranian activity, Zakheim said that an Iranian fighter-pilot was warned by a U.S. warship in the Gulf to keep clear almost as soon as he took off from a base near Bandar Abbas in southeast Iran.

"My God, I just took off," the astonished pilot radioed back. "I'm not heading in your direction."

Zakheim said the crew of the unidentified warship, one of six U.S. vessels patrolling the Gulf, was "so alert that the moment that plane took off we were on the radio telling the pilot 'watch where you're going. You're headed in the direction of an American ship.'"

In the aftermath of the Stark attack, with the United States expected to send three more warships to the Gulf and the Soviets reportedly deploying three minesweepers to reinforce their two warships in the waterway, Zakheim stressed: "We're not going to let that mistake happen again."

"We're not going to send any more American bodies home in



casualties."

Zakheim stressed that the Americans' long-term aim is not just upholding the principle of freedom of navigation in the Gulf, but ending the Iran-Iraq war.

"We wish neither Iraq nor Iran any ill," he said. "But Iran is a belligerent party that refuses to come to the negotiating table. Iran does not want to end the war except on its own terms. We want

ers to Kuwait to give its oil exports the protection of the Soviet flag.

One of the tankers hit a mine May 16 in what maritime salvage executives said was an attempt by Iran to scare Moscow off. A Soviet freighter was attacked by gunboats in the Gulf a week earlier.

Washington has agreed to register 11 Kuwaiti tankers under the U.S. flag. But those plans have run into congressional opposition amid fears it could drag the United States into dangerous waters.

Diplomats in Bahrain said the Soviets have agreed to charter Kuwait as many vessels as it needs if the U.S. reflagging deal falls through.

While the superpowers are pressing Iran through the United Nations to accept mediation to end the war, they are both seeking to bolster their influence in the strategic, oil-rich region.

Chadli Klibi, secretary-general of the 22-member Arab League, has lauded the United States' "role of peace" in the Gulf, stressing that "our American friends have at last become aware of the grave dangers that weigh on this region."

After the United States began seeking bases in Gulf states for its warplanes to provide air cover,

Tehran sent Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati to Gulf capitals warning against giving the superpowers any facilities.

Iran's parliament speaker, Hashemi Rafsanjani, Friday declared his country must prepare to fight the United States in the Gulf and warned Arab states it would attack any bases or ports they allow the Americans to use.

Zakheim charged that the Soviets were "trying to fish in troubled waters."

U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger has called on Britain and France to help ensure that oil shipments are not blocked.

But Britain's Lord Carrington, NATO's secretary-general, has urged that the alliance stay out of involvement in the Gulf.

"We're not going to turn tail," he said. "We are going to stay the course."

Hawke — tough union boss who became popular Australian leader

SYDNEY (R) — Prime Minister Bob Hawke will become the first Labour Party leader to lead Australia for three terms of office if he wins the snap election called for July 11.

The most popular Australian prime minister for 50 years, Hawke has slightly toned down his tough and outspoken image since moving into parliament in 1980 after 10 years in the most powerful position in Australia's union movement.

To the outside world the 57-year-old, who gave up drinking when he became prime minister in March 1983, projects the role of a responsible statesman.

His main goal of coaxing Australia back to economic health is allied to a no-nonsense approach to foreign affairs such as his recent closure of the Libyan people's bureau in Canberra demonstrated.

Among his own people Hawke's charm, rugged good looks and "man-of-the-people" love of sport guarantee his position as the country's political pin-up.

An opinion poll has put Hawke's popularity rating at a record high of 57 per cent compared with 31 per cent for opposition leader John Howard.

In his first term of office Hawke presided over the fastest economic growth in Australia for a decade, cutting inflation, raising business profits and employment.

His government also established a record for pragmatic and moderate economic management which saw the floating of the Australian dollar and a proposed entry of foreign banks.

President of the Australian Council of Trades Unions (ACTU) from 1970, Hawke won a seat in parliament at his second attempt in 1980 and set about changing his image as a tough, abrasive, outspoken and hard-drinking union leader.

When Liberal Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser suddenly called a general election in February, 1983, Hawke took over the Labour Party leadership from Bill Hayden and led the party to victory in the succeeding March poll, promising national reconciliation and government for all.

His first term was aided by an element of luck such as drought-breaking rains in 1983 which prompted an agriculture-led economic recovery.

Riding the back of an economic boom, Hawke called a snap election for December 1984 after just

20 months in office, convinced that he had fulfilled his promises.

He was returned, but with a reduced majority instead of the landslide win he expected.

Hawke blamed the country's complex voting system which he said led to many Labour supporters' votes being spoiled. But some commentators accused him of arrogance during a campaign built around himself.

An emotional man, Hawke broke down and wept at a televised press conference during a discussion on the issue of drug abuse. His wife later revealed that his daughter and son-in-law had been heroin addicts.

A vibrant orator with an evangelical style, Hawke in his union days became adept at cajoling disagreeing bosses and workers round the conference table.

In parliament he helped set up an inflation-cutting wages and prices accord he believed vital to maintaining industrial peace and boost the economy.



Bob Hawke

ly with the earlier praise he had earned from both the finance and business communities for his consensus approach to economic management and his rapid loosening of a highly-regulated financial system.

Australia's dependence on commodity exports and its helplessness to stop the slump in prices and oversupply also helped cause Hawke's latter economic problems.

Robert James Lee Hawke was born on December 9, 1929 in the south Australian village of Bordertown, where his father was a

congregational church minister.

When he was nine the family moved to Perth. An outstanding student, Hawke won a scholarship to the University of Western Australia where he gained a law degree with honours in 1950 and, after an extra year, a degree in economics.

In 1952 he won a Rhodes scholarship to Oxford University, England, where he spent three years studying Australia's labour arbitration system.

While at Oxford he won a blue at cricket and a place in the Guinness Book of Records for drinking two-and-a-half pints (nearly 1.5 litres) of beer in 12 seconds.

Returning from Oxford, he married Hazel Masterson, organist at his father's church, in 1956 and they have a son and two daughters.

Hawke spent six months as a trainee oil executive, did odd jobs as a gardener, a builder's labourer and was an attendant on a merry-go-round.

He had no experience of trade unions when he was asked in 1957 to join the ACTU as a researcher preparing wage cases but his grasp of economics and natural flair for debate was to make a formidable opponent for em-

ployer's representatives.

Although he rose to the top of the union movement with the support of left-wing unions, Hawke retained his independence and freedom of manoeuvre. Under his leadership the ACTU extended its activities outside the traditional sphere of wages and conditions.

Almost single-handed Hawke carried the union movement with him in an often unpopular campaign which ended Australia's sporting contacts with South Africa.

In 1973 he was elected president of Australian Labour Party but stepped down in 1978 to devote more time to his union activities.

Hawke, whose uncle was a Labour premier for the state of Western Australia in the 1950s, first stood for parliament in 1963 but was unsuccessful.

He was once described by a commentator as everyone's idea of a typical Australian — drinking like a fish, swearing like a trooper, working like a demon and acting like a playboy.

It was an image which he modified on entering parliament in 1980, giving up alcohol, modifying his earthy language and detaching himself to politics.



Labour supporters at a rally

Sygma photos

Polls come under spotlight in British election campaign

By Chris Peterson
Reuters

LONDON — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is going to sweep back to power with a 100-seat majority — or have no majority at all, depending on



Margaret Thatcher on the campaign trail

which opinion poll you believe.

Public opinion polls have taken control of a British election campaign as never before, with stock markets reacting to the merest hint of a new survey and political leaders changing tactics in response to poor showings.

Polls taken within hours of each other have either shown Thatcher poised to come back into power with a comfortable majority in the 650-seat parliament, or without one, raising the prospect of a minority government or the first coalition for over 40 years.

But as campaigning reaches fever-pitch ahead of the June 11 general election, politicians and the public alike are beginning to question the value of opinion polls.

Some 200 polls will have been conducted on behalf of newspapers, radio and television by the time the country's 43.6 million voters get the chance to make their preferences known in the voting booths.

George Foulkes, a front bench spokesman of the opposition Labour Party and a consistent opponent of public opinion polls, thinks enough is enough.

"The growth of polls is causing increasing concern."

"They are so powerful and influential that people are beginning to use them not just to

determine the outcome of the general election but also for illicit material gain," he said.

According to pollsters a sinister trend has emerged where the polls are deliberately used, or misused, to influence financial markets.

According to market analysts, deliberate rumours that a poll for the Guardian newspaper this week showed Thatcher's hitherto commanding lead slashed to two percentage points wiped £6 billion (\$10 billion) off stock market share values. When the poll finally came out, the Tories' lead was 10 points.

Some senior politicians believe the rumours were deliberately started by dealers anxious to see shares being sold, allowing them to reap quick profits and then purchase them back at a cheaper price later.

Robert Worcester, chairman of the Market Opinion Research International (MORI) survey organisation, said: "The market is being manipulated unethically."

"It's the unacceptable face of capitalism."

One rather confused group of residents are the foreign dealers who now work in London's financial district following the deregulation of the markets last October.

John Sheppard, an analyst with Warburg Securities, said public opinion poll fever was peculiar to British markets during an election.

He said London was the only financial centre in the world which felt itself vulnerable to the election of what it sees as an inflationary, anti-business group such as Labour.

The Labour Party is committed to introducing tougher regulations in the city, as well as new safeguards on mergers, takeovers and monopolies. Some finance experts also fear its plan for a major government spending programme to create jobs would fuel inflation, weakening the economy.

Sheppard said foreign dealers, most experiencing their first British election, "find it rather confusing."

Both the state-funded British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) and Independent Television News (ITN) say they will be able to forecast the election result within minutes of the polls closing on Thursday night.

But long before the 10 p.m. close, vast fortunes will have been won and lost as a result of the canvassed views of only a few thousand people.

A public opinion poll consists of interviewing — either face-to-face or by telephone — a group of people chosen at random.

The poll organisations maintain results over the years have proved to be accurate to between two and four per cent, depending on the type of poll.

In electoral terms, there are two types of poll — either a random nationwide sample or one taken in a key marginal area. There is also a so-called "rolling poll" where a group of 1,000 voters is polled on a daily basis, with a quarter of them being changed each time.

As far as any member of the public who wants an idea of the nation's intentions is concerned, one 24-hour period this week presented two radical options from two respected organisations.

The Harris poll for TV-AM gave Prime Minister Thatcher a commanding 10-point lead, while the previous evening BBC's newsmagazine produced a result that pointed for the first time to a hung parliament, with no one party enjoying an overall majority.

Peter Riddell, the political editor of the Financial Times, said the various polls had given widely conflicting signals.

There are clear defects in the coverage of marginal surveys. By definition they cannot all be right. But they may not all be wrong. So for the overall picture, the national surveys are still the best guide.

Japan promises huge hike in Third World aid to 'recycle' surplus

By K.P. Hong
The Associated Press

TOKYO — Japan, under foreign pressure to use its huge trade surplus to help others, has promised a major increase in its Third World aid, including a new \$30-billion loan programme.

Japan says it will "recycle" some of its surplus by offering \$30 billion in public and private funds in soft loans to developing countries over the next three years. Much of this money will go to Latin America and Asia.

The special programme is in addition to the government's regular programme of official development assistance, which totalled \$5.634 billion in the fiscal year ending March 31. The government decided last month to raise that to \$7.6 billion by 1990, two years earlier than originally promised. Much of this assistance will go to Africa.

The recycling programme and the increase in regular assistance are designed to answer criticism that Japan, in building its powerful export-oriented economy, has taken more from the world than it has given back. Japan racked up a staggering \$101.4-billion surplus in fiscal 1986.

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has praised Japan for increasing its aid to Third World countries, "though not as much as I'd like."

The new "recycling loans" are to be low-interest, untied loans, funded by the massive inflow into Japanese banks and the capital market because of the surplus. Untied loans do not require borrowers to spend the funds on goods and services in the lender's country, a common practice by developed nations.

Hideaki Domichi, deputy director of the Foreign Ministry's aid policy division, said in an interview that most of the new "recycling loans" would probably go to developing countries in Latin America. He said least-developed countries in Africa were likely to receive more official direct assistance grants.

"We believe that the recycling funds will help solve problems of

structural adjustment and debt problems in developing nations, mainly in Latin America and Asia," he said.

"Assistance flow into the Latin American and Asian countries is declining every year, and developing countries in these regions now face such problems as declining commodity prices, subsequent lower export earnings and debt accumulation," he said. The flow of the world's total resources into developing countries has declined from \$132 billion in 1981 to \$78 billion in 1985, Domichi said.

Most Japanese development aid traditionally has gone to Asia, and Japan has not imposed political conditions in return for assistance. China has been one of the largest recipients, Domichi said.

He said details on the programmes were still being formulated, and the nature and size of the aid packages would be determined through negotiations with recipients and international organisations.

In a meeting with U.S. President Ronald Reagan in Washington early in May, Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone pledged \$20 billion more for recycling loans over three years for developing nations.

That was in addition to the original plan late last year to make available \$10 billion for the three-year programme. The government said it would provide the \$30 billion to developing countries through the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the Asian Development Bank and the International Development Association.

Washington often has urged Japan to spend more on aid, saying it enjoys low unemployment and a huge trade surplus while also spending less on its military than the United States and other industrialised countries.

With its anti-war constitution and its mutual defence treaty with the United States as a shield, Japan spends about one per cent of its gross national product for

its military, compared with the United States' seven per cent.

The powerful federation of economic organisations (Keidanren), which groups the nation's 1,000 top business leaders, criticised Japan's past contributions to developing countries in a report in May.

The Keidanren said aid programmes place too much emphasis on "tied" loans, requiring that part of the money be spent in Japan. It also complained that grants comprised just 47.5 per cent of Japan's total aid in 1984, the last year for which figures are available. In contrast, the United States gave 80.8 per cent of its official overseas assistance as grants and less than 20 per cent as loans, the Keidanren said.

It urged the government to swiftly reduce the rate of interest on yen loans that Japan already has extended to developing countries.

Borrowers have complained that the seemingly low annual three per cent interest rate has become a heavy burden because of the year's 20-month heavy appreciation against the other currencies.

The report suggested that Japan's aid fund be disbursed in foreign currency denominations rather than in yen. It also said Japan should extend 50-year interest-free "ultra-soft loans."

Japan's official development assistance as a percentage of gross national product stood at 0.34 in 1984, 11th among 18 donor countries in the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development. For 1985, Japan's aid as a share of GNP fell to 0.29 per cent, dropping it to 15th.

The Foreign Ministry says Japan's official development assistance in the fiscal year ending March 31 rose 48.4 per cent in dollar terms over the previous year, to a record \$5.634 billion.

In yen terms, however, the amount was up just 4.8 per cent from fiscal 1985 to 949.5 billion yen, and still was below the 1.025 trillion yen provided in fiscal 1984.

Plan for Eiffel Tower 'light ring' under attack

PARIS (AP) — A plan to celebrate the Eiffel Tower's 100th anniversary by launching a "light ring" into space is drawing angry complaints from astronomers around the world who say the giant reflecting satellite could wreck their sensitive telescopes.

But the project's backers say launching what would be the biggest satellite in the heavens is a fitting way to commemorate the erection of what was once the world's tallest structure.

"It's a pointless piece of egotism," said Paul Murdin, the head of the astronomy division of the Royal Greenwich Observatory in Britain. "What we're talking about is space junk."

"The sky is not the property of astronomers," retorted Philippe Gillieron, a spokesman for the Societe Nouvelle D'exploitation de la Tour Eiffel, the company backing the plan, which was the result of an international competition.

Gillieron compared the astronomer's complaints with the outcry over the Eiffel Tower's construction nearly a century ago.

Part of the controversy then was that the tower was designed by an engineer, Gustav Eiffel, and not an architect.

The "space necklace" he said, would be a symbol of the technical aspirations of the 21st century, just as the tower symbolised those of the 20th century.

The expected launch date is now 1990, a year later than the anniversary and planned celebrations. The satellite would be carried into space by the Ariane rocket, the scheduling of which has been disrupted by launch failures.

The estimated 300 million francs (\$50 million) needed has yet to be raised. The company is seeking to raise a subscription supported by 21 major European corporations.

The light ring would consist of 100 reflectors linked by plastic tubes, each 240 metres long, orbiting 800 kilometres above the earth. It would reflect sunlight and be visible at night.



Eiffel Tower

Randa Habib's

Root out the grass before it 'catches' fire

FIREMEN are very busy these days extinguishing fires that break out almost daily in waste grounds. With the heat, it only takes someone to throw a lighted cigarette for dry grass to burn down.

But fires are breaking out not only by accident. In many cases they have been deliberate acts by neighbours who wanted to get rid of grass because it was disturbing them and because they were worried of snakes which could hide there, posing a threat to their children who often use these lots as play grounds.

But surely this is not the way. The municipality should send its people to take care of grounds covered by thorns and grass and not wait for people to burn them, endangering lives.

Just imagine one of those "daily fires" reaching a petrol station. It would be a catastrophe. And as most of our gas stations are located in residential areas, between houses, so many lives can be in danger. I am particularly worried about one gas station situated between two empty lots, and close to many houses. Those lots are not burned yet, and I hope no-one would be foolish enough to start a fire there.

Why doesn't the municipality send some special teams to clean up all this stuff and charge the owners of the land for the cost of the cleaning up.

On flat lands, it will only take few minutes for a tractor to clean the ground. Other ways can be used on slopes.

One thing is sure: We can't just sit and watch the city burn.

In appreciation of Nabih Y. Bulos

THE death 10 days ago of Nabih Y. Bulos, one of the pioneers in the field of engineering in Palestine and Jordan, was indeed a loss for all those who knew him and worked with him. His contribution to the development of the area in terms of construction, roads, water and pipeline projects will be remembered for many years to come.

Born in 1909, Mr. Bulos graduated in 1929 from Loughborough University in England with first class honours in civil engineering. He held several senior positions in both the private and public sectors including that of district engineer of Nablus district and then of Jerusalem and Gaza, and in 1948 area engineer at IPC in Homs.

In 1953 Mr. Bulos was offered the position of under-secretary of state for public works in Jordan, a post he held until 1959. During that time and afterwards he was directly responsible for the design, contract specifications and preparation, and/or supervision of a number of impressive engineering projects such as Amman-Aqaba Desert Road, the East Ghor Canal irrigation project and the Hussein Sports City.

Mr. Bulos was the oldest member of the Jordanian Engineers Association and was instrumental in setting it up. He was also very active in establishing and standardising the Kod Al Arabi — the Arab World building code.

Mr. Bulos held several advisory positions and up to his death was consultant to the Ministry of Youth and the Water Authority.

Mr. Bulos was a Fellow of the Institution of Civil Engineers and Fellow of the Institution of Arbitrators, Great Britain. On the latter account, he handled a variety of local and international arbitration cases and chaired a number of arbitral tribunals.

With his demise, engineering has lost a landmark of professionalism, integrity and expertise.

In Memoriam: Nabih Yusuf Bulos

NOT much must be said for his words were little but his voice will always ring despite the silence of the beyond.

He died one early Tuesday morning. Always prompt, he had an appointment with the Sun and he was there before its rise.

His last evening was typical:



Nabih Y. Bulos (1921-1987)

reviewing an arbitration case, a crossword puzzle, a game of solitaire, a light supper, some television and a book. Perhaps a detective story, most probably a technical treatise. He died at home having always been at home with life.

There were colours in the eyes that defied description: circles of grey and green and tenderness — a precious stone in the making. He had a funny walk, a lifting engine sort of the music lover and the engineer, always springing to the slightest request. Always the volunteer, he would peel your orange with a fork and knife and with love.

His weaknesses were countable: little girls, Peach Melbas and calculators. And there was the pipe, ever lit, puffing away life's trivia. A peace pipe, a coming to terms with the world.

He will be missed. For his alertness of mind and sense of responsibility. For his generosity of heart and untiring spirit.

He will be missed. For his warmth and jollity. For his selflessness and optimism. For his softness and mannerism. A spark of absolute justice burnt in him: Treating all — the young and the old, the fortunate and the ordinary — with the same sort of manners and the same genuineness of respect.

But above all, he will be missed for his abundance of love.

He died as he lived: troubling none, bearing the pain silently.

He and his life's companion would have celebrated their fiftieth anniversary this coming August. His words to her then were Dryden's:

Grow old, grow old with me, The best is yet to be.

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Lendl wins French Open men's title

PARIS (Agencies) — Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia retained his men's singles title at the French Open tennis championships Sunday, beating Sweden's Mats Wilander 7-5, 6-2, 3-6, 7-6 in a match that finished in rain and semi-darkness.

Lendl, who was appearing in his fourth successive final, took four hours, 17 minutes to clinch the title for the third time. He won last year and in 1984 but was beaten in 1985 by Wilander.

It was the fifth Grand Slam success for the 27-year-old Czechoslovak, the world's number 1 player, who has also won the U.S. Open twice.

The match was interrupted by rain in the middle of the fourth set with Lendl leading 3-2. When play resumed under grey skies 35 minutes later, Wilander appeared

less troubled by the delay.

He won the first six points, holding serve for 3-3 and moving to 0-30 on Lendl's service.

But the defending champion recovered his concentration, hit three winners and rallied to hold for 4-3.

Both players then held at love and Wilander twice had to serve to save the match, first at 4-5 and then at 5-6. He succeeded both times and took the set into a tiebreaker.

As the rain began to fall again, the centre court crowd huddled



Wilander... the victim

under umbrellas and Lendl seemed in a hurry to get the tiebreaker over and win the \$195,000 winner's paycheck. He ripped off the first four



Lendl... the victor

points in style but let the Swede back in, with two sloppy errors. But a fantastic stretching backhand pass down the line took Lendl to 5-2 and he moved to 6-2

and four match points after Wilander hit a service return.

Lendl, appearing in his fourth successive final here, played the more powerful tennis for most of the match.

The Czechoslovak, fired up for victory, raced into a 4-0 lead in the tie-break, serving aggressively and taking the initiative.

Wilander came back to 4-2 and saved one match-point with a smash for 6-3. But, with the crowd chanting their names, Lendl clinched the tie-break at 7-3 to retain the title he won last year against Sweden's Mikael Pernfors.

"This was the hardest of my five Grand Slams," said Lendl, who won his first in a dramatic five-setter against American John McEnroe here in 1984.

Beginner Natroun wins French Derby for Aga Khan again

PARIS (R) — Natroun, the most inexperienced horse in the field, won the Prix Du Jockey Club (French Derby) Sunday to give the Aga Khan his fourth success in the race in the last nine years.

The colt, racing for only the third time, was brought by veteran Yves Saint-Martin on the wide outside and won by a head from Tremolino, the mount of English champion jockey Pat Eddery.

English challenger Naheez, ridden by Steve Cauthen who won the English Derby on Reference

Point on Wednesday, ran on to be third, two lengths away, with the outsider Mansonien another length away in fourth place.

The result was some compensation for the Aga Khan and his jockey after the disappointing showing of Sadiyd in the English equivalent on Wednesday.

Sadiyd had been heavily backed to lift the Epsom Classic but lost many lengths at the start, although he ran on to finish in a respectable eighth position.

The disappointment of Sunday's race was Irish-trained Seat-

le Dancer, the world's most expensive yearling at \$13.1 million. Trained by Vincent O'Brien and ridden by American Cash Asmusen, the horse was given every chance but could finish only sixth.

The early lead in the mile-and-a-half test was held by Seattle Dancer's pacemaker Ancient Times but when the 17-strong field turned into the straight, Tremolino looked the likely winner.

However, as Eddery set sail for home, Saint-Martin was making ominous progress.

In a driving finish the Frenchman got up in the final 50 metres to claim his ninth French Derby victory and lift the \$342,856 first prize.

New Zealander wins Australian marathon

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) — New Zealand's Peter Renner, competing over the distance for only the second time, scored a convincing victory Sunday in the Australian Marathon Championships.

Renner, a 28-year-old logging contractor who has represented his country in the Olympics as a steeplechaser, covered the 26 miles, 385 yards (42.2 kms) in 2 hours, 14 minutes, 9 seconds.

Renner, ignoring the cold, damp, windy conditions, turned back a late challenge from Australian Danny Boltz, who finished second in 2:14:36.

"I was surprised how easy it was over the last few kilometres," said Renner. "I relaxed and ran my own race."

Gabriel Kaman, a Kenyan resident of the United States was third in 2:16:04.

Suleiman Nyambui of Tanzania, who also lives in the United States, was fourth in 2:18:33 with fellow Tanzanian Agapius Masong, also a resident of the United States, fifth in 2:18:42.

Hugo Rey of Switzerland was sixth in 2:19:20 over a difficult hilly course with many corners that made fast times difficult.

Tani Ruckle, a Canadian-born Australian, won the women's division with a time of 2:37:52. She led virtually all the way.

Ruckle collapsed after her victory and was put on an intravenous drip by doctors due to dehydration and exhaustion.

Now Graf looks to Wimbledon and beyond

PARIS (R) — Whether or not Martina Navratilova wins Wimbledon in four weeks time matters little her time is over.

Holder of 15 Grand Slam titles, world number one in 1978, 1979, and 1982-86, and winner of over \$12 million in prize money, Navratilova abdicated in Paris on Saturday when she double faulted on match-point to hand Steffi Graf the French Open crown.

While it may take some months before the West German teenager, who will be 18 a week Sunday, actually assumes the number one status in the rankings, no one who witnessed her 6-4, 4-6, 8-6 triumph at Roland Garros is any doubt the 30-year-old American is now anything but second best.

It would be foolish to dismiss Navratilova's chances on the fast grass of Wimbledon where she will be bidding for a sixth successive and eighth overall victory, and she still holds a 5-3 lead over her teenage rival.

But Graf, who had arrived in Paris as the world number two after easing aside Chris Evert, looks set to begin a new dynasty in women's tennis which may see her ultimately challenge Navratilova's remarkable record of seven Wimbledon titles, three U.S.,



Navratilova... the vanquished

three Australian and two French. Long before Navratilova's nervy double-fault on match point in the fourth game of the final set, the American had developed a complex about the West German who had entered the centre court with an unbeaten record in 1987 stretching back 38 matches.

"Martina has had a 'thing' about Steffi since losing to her in Key Biscayne last March," explained one locker-room rival. "She finished that match in tears, has been afraid of Steffi ever since and that's why she even plays with the same racket now."

Alarmed by the power Graf generates, particularly on her "killer forehand" as it is known, Navratilova borrowed a similar racket from Canadian Carling Bassett during a practice session while in Rome for last month's Italian Open.

Navratilova liked the "Wonder-Bat" so much she bought several, blacked out the maker's logo, and re-painted it in the livery of her own racket sponsor.

The youngest woman to win the French title, Graf intends playing in the three other major championships this year — Wimbledon and the U.S. and Australian Opens.

"She could win the lot, yes, I mean the Grand Slam," said Evert, who may not be content to linger in the sport now she has dropped to number three. "She is so powerful it's frightening."

Accompanied everywhere by father and mentor Peter Graf and new coach Peter Szoloz, the Czechoslovak Davis Cup player, who is improving her serve-volley technique for Wimbledon and the other faster surfaces, Graf refuses to accept her success will lead to pressures.

"I think it will be fun to be number one. No, I don't think I'm number one just yet, Martina still is ... though I'm a step closer."

Van Berg, Alysheba denied place in history books

ELMONT, New York (R) — Trainer Jack Van Berg and Alysheba were denied a place among horse racing's elite by one of the most remarkable turnarounds in the sport's history.

Bet Twice — narrowly beaten by Alysheba in both the Kentucky Derby and Preakness Stakes — pounded to one of the most decisive victories in the Belmont Stakes on Saturday as the American Triple Crown eluded Van Berg and his three-year-old colt.

Victory would have earned Alysheba a place alongside 11 other thoroughbreds in history who have swept the three U.S. classics in one season.

Van Berg, too, would have joined the select group of 10 men — James Fitzsimmons achieved the feat with two horses in 1930 and 1935 — who trained Triple Crown-winning colts.

But 8-1 shot Bet Twice and

jockey Craig Perret exacted full revenge on Alysheba, and collected a \$1 million bonus, by romping to a 14-length victory ahead of Cryptoclearance with Gulch third. Alysheba, the favourite, was fourth.

Nearly 65,000 fans packed Belmont Park to roar Alysheba into the record books. It was the biggest attendance at the course since Affirmed captured the last Triple Crown in 1978, but this time most left disappointed.

The shock was not that Alysheba lost but that Bet Twice, who appeared totally outclassed in the gallop for the line as Alysheba won the two previous classics, should triumph so emphatically.

It was the largest victory margin since Conquistador Cielo presented local trainer Woody Stephens with the first of his five successive wins in 1982, and was the fifth biggest ever.

Alysheba was baulked coming

round the final bend and lost ground when jockey Chris McCarron snapped him sideways to avoid a collision with Gone West.

"If that hadn't happened, he would have been an easy second," Van Berg said. "But he would never have beaten Bet Twice today — not the way he ran. You like to win but you can't cry if you lose. If one guy won every race there would be no racing."

"Of course I am disappointed at losing the Triple Crown. But I've been busted all my life so a few more years won't hurt. He went to the post perfect but there's been a lot of them knocked off before and a lot will be again."

Ironically, it was the first appearance in the Belmont Stakes for Perret, Bet Twice trainer Jimmy Coll and owner Bob Levy.

"Bet Twice fired as I knew he would," said Perret. "He's been super in all three races and today Alysheba was not on top of his game."

"As long as my horse was comfortable I wasn't worried where I was. I put my horse on the best part of the track and was running very relaxed. I kept an eye on Gone West, thinking I would have to move with him."

Bet Twice hit the front just after halfway and thereafter reduced the race to a procession, powering down the straight to put more and more daylight between him and the chasing pack.

Alysheba is the 11th horse to miss the Triple Crown after winning the first two classics.



Alysheba ... the gallop to history books thwarted (file photo)

Australian motorcyclist wins Austrian Grand Prix

SALZBURG, Austria (R) — Wayne Gardner of Australia won Sunday's 500 CC Austrian Motorcycle Grand Prix on the fast Salzburger track after a furious race-long duel with American Randy Mamola.

Gardner seized the lead on his Honda at the end of the first lap. Mamola edged his Yamaha into the lead numerous times but the Australian pulled away in the final two laps to cross the line 2.4 seconds ahead.

American Eddie Lawson, Gardner's greatest rival for the world championship, retired his Yamaha early in the race.

His exit allowed Gardner to stretch his tally in the championship standings to 58 points, 14 ahead of Mamola. Lawson, who was second before Sunday's race, drops to fourth place, 19 points adrift.

Briton Niall Mackenzie rode one of the best races of his career to take third on a Honda while his compatriot Ron Haslam slipped to fourth after leading the opening lap with one of his customary rocket starts.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

S. Korean boxer retains world title

SEOUL (R) — South Korean Yuh Myung-Woo showed superior skill and punching power to retain his World Boxing Association (WBA) junior-flyweight title in the southern city of Pusan on Sunday. Yuh stopped Panamanian Benito Murrillo midway through the 15th and final round when U.S. referee Ruddy Battle moved between the fighters as the champion pinned Murrillo on the ropes with a barrage of unanswered blows.

Bodies of missing climbers found in tent

PARADISE, Washington (AP) — The bodies of two mountain climbers missing for a week on Mount Rainier have been recovered from a tent where the men had sought refuge from a storm. National Park officials said. The tent, at the 13,000-foot (4,000-metre) level near Liberty Ridge, had been hit by an avalanche, and the men appeared to have died instantly, said Mount Rainier National Park spokesman C.Y. Hentges.

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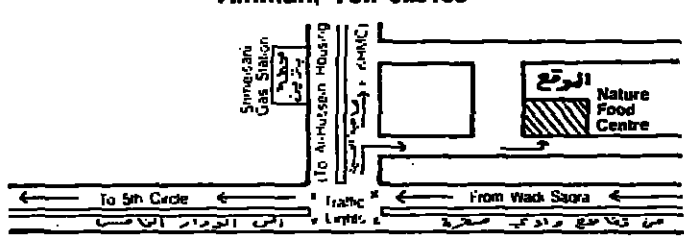
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Philippine police 'Eagles' return to fight Communist 'Sparrows'

MANILA (Agencies) — Elite police squads, acting under orders from President Corazon Aquino, were sent out Sunday to hunt down left-wing assassins who have killed at least six policemen and one soldier in a week.

Two more policemen were gunned down by unidentified attackers in the past two days. Investigators said Sergeant Dionisio Angeles, police chief of Santa Ana town just north of Manila, was killed by gunmen as he was returning home on Friday. Sergeant Sabino Millare was also shot on his way home Saturday night in Taguig in suburban Manila, they said.

Mrs. Aquino, battling Asia's largest Communist insurgency, Saturday ordered intensified military and police operations against the rebel hit-men, dubbed "Sparrows."

Six policemen have been killed the past week in the Manila area by the "Sparrows," named for the speed with which they strike. The Sparrows are small, well-trained and well-armed units of the Communist New People's Army (NPA). Their targets are usually policemen.

The police squads charged with tracking the Sparrows down, and if necessary killing them, are called "Eagles."

This is the second time in two months that the Eagles, veteran

policemen formed into five-member squads, have been ordered into action.

"They are proficient marksmen, some are judo and karate experts, and all of them have guns," Captain Jose Pring, an Eagles commander, told Reuters.

The 200-man Eagle force claimed to have killed nine suspected rebels in a two-week operation last March after a similar upsurge of Sparrow murders. The NPA denied any of the police victims were rebels.

Four alleged rebels were killed during the weekend in clashes with troops outside the capital, the Philippine News Agency reported Sunday.

It said an alleged NPA commander was killed and four aides were wounded when rebels raided a police headquarters in Quezon province Saturday.

Thirteen soldiers were wounded, including nine in an army vehicle that struck a landmine.

The news agency said three rebels were killed on Friday in an army raid on an NPA hideout in Pangasinan province.

Mrs. Aquino ordered the

Eagles into action after an emergency meeting at the presidential palace Saturday with army commanders led by Armed Forces Chief Gen. Fidel Ramos.

A palace spokesman said Mrs. Aquino was "very concerned" at the resurgence of Sparrow killings.

The army officers told Mrs. Aquino the rebels' tactic of shifting the guerrilla war to the cities could be aimed at easing military pressure on guerrilla forces in rural areas.

The spokesman said the military was concerned about the impact of the killings on the shaky Philippine economy.

He quoted one commander as telling Mrs. Aquino: "If the Sparrows can kill police officers, they can hit businessmen."

Besides reactivating the Eagles, the military also decided to resume random checks of vehicles in the capital and ask residents to report the possible presence of rebels, the spokesman said.

Mrs. Aquino Saturday repealed two decrees issued by former President Ferdinand Marcos, including "one which increased the penalty for subversion from life imprisonment to death."

The other decree prescribed the death penalty for anyone who tried to kill the president, his family, members of his cabinet

and generals of the armed forces.

Mrs. Aquino said the second decree smacked of "the law of the kings" and had "no place in a democratic society."

The Commission on Election Saturday overrode opposition protests and officially proclaimed 20 winners in the May 11 election for 24 Senate seats.

They included 19 ruling party candidates and movie actor Joseph Estrada, an oppositionist. The commission, which has counted 90 per cent of the votes, plans to proclaim the four other winners this week.

Opposition charges of fraud had delayed the proclamation.

The commission has ordered a provincial military commander relieved of duty for allegedly using his men to work for opposition candidates in the May 11 congressional balloting, an official said Sunday.

Commissioner Haydee Yorac said the order was issued on May 29 after Cagayan province Governor Teresa Dupaya and other local officials asked the elections body to dismiss Lt.-Col. Reynaldo Aguinaldo as provincial commander.

Col. Aguinaldo is a supporter of Juan Ponce Enrile, who was defence minister under ousted President Ferdinand Marcos.

Polls show Thatcher on course to victory

LONDON (R) — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher looked set to win an unprecedented third consecutive term in the June 11 general election as opinion polls Sunday put her firmly in the lead with only four days to go.

One poll, conducted by Harris for the Observer newspaper, gave the ruling Conservatives 44 per cent of the votes, the Labour Party 33 per cent and the centrist Alliance 21.

A Mori poll for the Sunday Times also gave the Tories an 11-point lead with 43 per cent of the votes. Labour received 32 per cent and the Liberal-Social Democrat Alliance 24 per cent.

A Gallup survey for the Sunday Telegraph, gave the conservatives 41.5 per cent, Labour 34.5 and the Alliance 22.5.

Under Britain's winner-takes-all voting system, the first two polls would give the Conservatives an overall majority of more than 84 seats in the 650-member House of Commons. The third would give them around 37 seats, compared to 144 at the moment.

The surveys of between 1,087 and 1,275 voters during June 3 and 5 showed Mrs. Thatcher had firmly regained the lead in the campaign after Labour last week appeared to catch up and made shares tumble on the London Stock Exchange.

The Tories are promising prosperity and wealth with more free enterprise Thatcherism, which they say has tripled the number of share owners since

1979, boosted the average worker's take-home pay by 21 per cent and kept inflation in check.

Mrs. Thatcher, 61, would be the first British prime minister to win a consecutive third term in office since Britain's modern parliamentary system was established in the Reform Act of 1832.

Neil Kinnock's Labour Party is pledged to a non-nuclear Britain — scrapping the country's independent nuclear deterrent and ordering out U.S. nuclear arms — and a caring government which will take the unemployed, sick and elderly under its wing.

The party, which now stands at an average nine percentage points behind the Tories, has taken a battering over its defence policy and suffered another blow Sunday with a military chief warning Britain's defence could not be guaranteed under Labour.

"The Labour Party would, in a matter of weeks, effectively destroy NATO alliance and cause the breakdown of the West's collective defence," Admiral of the Fleet Lord Lewin was quoted as saying in the Sunday Telegraph Sunday.

Lord Lewin, who was head of the armed forces during the 1982 Falklands war against Argentina, added: "Had this happened to me when I was chief of the defence staff, I would have told Mr. Kinnock that his policy would destroy the country's defences and that I could not support it."

"If he insisted on its implementation, I would have had to resign," Lord Lewin said.

4 killed in raids on two Sri Lankan military camps

COLOMBO (R) — Three rebels and a soldier were killed when gunmen attacked two military camps near Colombo, the Sri Lankan government said.

A statement said three attackers were killed and 10 more captured during an early morning raid on the island's main air force base at Katunayake, 32 kilometres west of Colombo.

The government said the outlawed People's Liberation Front, mainly recruited from Sri Lanka's Sinhalese majority, was responsible for both attacks, which were simultaneous.

Defence Ministry officials said 15 gunmen drove in a van into the Ratmalana Military Training Academy, 15 kilometres south of Colombo. They shot dead a sentry and escaped with 17 Chinese rifles and 2,500 rounds of ammunition. An officer was injured in the raid.

At Katunayake, five men dressed in air force uniforms overpowered guards at two checkpoints and allowed 50 other rebels onto the base, the officials said.

While most headed for the

armoury in search of weapons, three got into the base commander's vehicle.

Guards fired at them as they drove towards the main gate. The vehicle ran into a ditch and its occupants were killed, officials said. Ten attackers were captured.

Officials said it was the first time that key military installations close to Colombo had been attacked.

The front, whose members are mainly from Sri Lanka's Sinhalese majority, was banned in July 1983 after it was accused of taking part in widespread anti-Tamil rioting.

More than 10,000 front members died when the government put down a revolt in 1971, but officials recently warned that the guerrillas were training new forces in secret jungle camps.

India and Sri Lanka, meanwhile, held discussions Saturday over further food aid to the beleaguered northern Jaffna peninsula amid reports of further fighting between government troops and Tamil rebels.

Reuter foundation announces awards

LONDON (R) — Seven journalists, including one Jordanian, in mid-career in the developing world have been awarded fellowships by the Reuter Foundation to study at universities.

Four will study at Oxford University, England, two at Stanford University, U.S.A., and one at Bordeaux University, France, during the 1987-88 academic year.

This is one more than in previous years. The extra fellowship at Oxford has been awarded to Munzir Elahi of the Pakistan ver-

naular newspaper Jang in Lahore because the foundation's trustees felt that his involvement in journalism for children should be supported.

The Reuter Foundation created an additional fellowship at Oxford in 1984 in memory of Najm al-Hassan, a Reuter correspondent from India who was killed on the Iran-Iraq war front in 1983. It has now established a fellowship for photo-journalists at the University of Missouri, U.S.A., in memory of Willie

Vicoy, a Reuter photographer fatally injured in an ambush in the northern Philippines in 1985.

The Jordanian journalist Norma Marcos, aged 35, will study at Stanford University.

The Reuter Foundation was established in 1982. Its aim is to help narrow the gap between developed and developing countries in the use of information technology and to provide research opportunities for talented journalists and photo-journalists from developing countries.

17 die in Tokyo fire

TOKYO (Agencies) — Seventeen people were killed and 27 injured in a late-night fire at an old people's home in an eastern suburb of Tokyo, fire brigade officials said Sunday.

Those killed were aged between 71 and 93. Five died in hospital.

Seventy-five people were in the home, including two women employees, when the fire broke out shortly before midnight at Shojun in Higashi Murayama city, a spokesman said.

More than 30 of the residents were bed-ridden and some were carried on the backs of firemen to safety.

Firemen brought the blaze in the three-storey building under control after two and a half hours, the spokesman said.

The injured, none of whom were hurt seriously, were taken to local hospitals after their rescue, said Katsuyoshi Yamanaka, a police officer.

Police and fire department officials were investigating the cause of the fire, police said.

Honecker plans to visit W. Germany

BERLIN (AP) — East German leader Erich Honecker has agreed to make an unprecedented visit to West Germany but has not set a date, the state-run East German News Agency (ADN) quoted him as saying.

It would be the first visit by any East German Communist Party chief to West Germany.

"Regarding my visit in the FRG (West Germany), there is basic agreement to carry it out. We only need to agree to a date appropriate for both sides,"

ADN quoted Mr. Honecker as saying.

ADN said he spoke in an interview with a Japanese journalist, and the news agency carried the text of the interview.

Mr. Honecker, who came to power in East Germany in 1971, has had a standing invitation to visit West Germany since Helmut Schmidt became chancellor in 1974.

When Chancellor Helmut Kohl was elected in October 1982, he

renewed the invitation.

The trip has been planned several times, but it always was cancelled when relations between East Germany and West Germany cooled or when the Soviet Union pressured East Germany.

Mr. Honecker's comments came after a week of media speculation about possible plans for Mr. Honecker to visit Bonn.

West German officials have refused to say whether they are planning to receive him this year.

Fijian governor-general appeals for national unity

SUVA (R) — Fiji's governor-general appealed to the nation to put aside what he called the politics of fear and racial aggression, and to give him support to return the country to democracy.

In an emotionally-worded radio address, Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau said he believed Fiji had moved back from "the brink of despair and destruction on which we had been poised for the last month."

But he said the situation facing the South Pacific country, plunged into a constitutional and political crisis by a military coup

last month, remained serious, and it faced economic destruction if strikes and trade bans were not abandoned.

"As your governor-general, the main appeal I would make to you today is that you all put aside the politics of fear and racial aggression which have emerged over the last few weeks. We know from various countries such politics can only be destructive."

He spoke as ousted Prime Minister Timoci Bavadra flew to London to petition Queen Elizabeth and lobby the British government for support in his campaign for reinstatement.

Pope inaugurates Marian Year

VATICAN (R) — Thousands of Roman citizens, pilgrims and tourists packed into St. Peter's square at midnight to attend a mass held by Pope John Paul to celebrate the start of a year of devotion to the Virgin Mary.

During the ceremony, lit with candles and floodlights, the Pontiff welcomed the opening of the Marian Year — a period of 14 months specially dedicated to the mother of Christ.

The Pope, praying before an icon of the Virgin and child placed in the square, told pilgrims Mary had been the first to receive the holy spirit within herself and accept Christ's reign.

"And with this faith Mary walked constantly at the side of Christ for all his earthly life, even until she stood before the cross at Golgotha," he said.

The Pope has a special devotion for Mary, who he believes saved his life in 1981, when he was seriously wounded by a Turkish gunman. The shooting took place on the anniversary of the day she is said to have first appeared to three shepherd children in Fatima, Portugal.

The Pontiff was due to continue his devotions with a visit to the Marian Shrine of the Divine Amore (Divine Love) just outside Rome.

On Saturday night the Pope officially inaugurated the Marian year with a televised recital of the rosary from St. Mary Major Basilica, the oldest church in the world dedicated to the Virgin.

As the Pope recited the rosary, the Catholic Church's traditional form of prayer to Mary, satellites linked him to 16 Marian shrines throughout the world, including three shrines where Mary is said to have appeared — Lourdes in France, Fatima in Portugal and Guadalupe in Mexico.

Sihanouk denies planning talks with Hanoi

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — Prince Norodom Sihanouk has denied that his decision to resign as leader of the Kampuchean resistance coalition was made in order to negotiate with Vietnamese or the Kampuchean governments.

But Prince Sihanouk left the door open to such contacts. "I have not had and I do not have any contact with the people from Hanoi or Phnom or Moscow and I do not have any plan to establish any contact whatsoever," Sihanouk said in a May 29 telegram to his son and representative in Bangkok, Prince Norodom Ranariddh.

However, Sihanouk added, "if one day a person from the opposite camp would like to come to greet me, I shall not fail to let the

whole world know."

A copy of the telegram was received Sunday from Sihanouk's Bangkok office.

Sihanouk recently announced he was stepping down as President of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea until May 7, 1988. He said this was because the Khmer Rouge, one of his coalition partners, was attacking his forces instead of cooperating on the battlefield and was abusing refugees in Khmer Rouge-controlled camps.

Sihanouk has condemned the Communist Khmer Rouge's massacres in Kampuchea in 1975-78, but has allied himself with it since 1982 because it is the strongest of the three guerrilla groups fighting Vietnamese forces that occupied

Kampuchea and installed the Phnom Penh government of President Heng Samrin.

Diplomats speculated that Sihanouk, frustrated by the impasse on the Kampuchean conflict, resigned to talk directly to Vietnam or Phnom Penh, which he could not do as coalition president, mainly because of opposition from the Khmer Rouge and its Chinese backers.

In the telegram, Sihanouk asked his son to make known that "speculation ... I was simply looking for a pretext to negotiate with Vietnam and (Phnom Penh) are unjust."

This intention, he said, "does not exist but in the imagination of foreigners and Khmers who despise me."

Chinese forestry minister was sick when fire broke out

PEKING (R) — China's forestry minister, sacked for his handling of the country's worst forest fire in memory, was in hospital when it broke out and did not get to the scene for more than two weeks, the People's Daily said Sunday.

The daily and all other major papers printed a speech by Vice Premier Tian Jiyun to a meeting of the State Council Saturday which contains a savage indictment of the minister, Yang Zhong, and his department.

"The basic cause of the fire was not nature or the fire forestry workers who infringed regulations but chaotic management, slack discipline and bureaucraticism," Mr. Tian said.

Five forestry workers were arrested last month for starting fires. Three were charged with throwing cigarette ends onto grass, one with spilling oil and another for producing sparks from a chain saw.

"The fire exposes serious bureaucraticism and irresponsibility in the leadership of the Forestry Ministry," Mr. Tian said.

He said Mr. Yang, whose dismissal has to be confirmed by the

Peru's top 3 police commanders resign

LIMA, Peru (AP) — The nation's top three police commanders have resigned in the wake of a four-day police strike, the government said Saturday.

Interior Minister Abel Salinas named replacements for generals Carlos Rodriguez, Alberto Berredo and Faber Cabello, who he said had failed to quell the strike, which "undermined authority and broke the principle of discipline" within police ranks.

Several Lima newspapers said the government had requested the resignations.

Mr. Salinas named Gen. Octavio Herrera to replace Gen. Rodriguez as the overall commander of the nation's three police forces, which together comprise about 75,000 police officers. Gen. Berredo and Gen. Cabello had headed two of the forces.

Gen. Ruben Romero was named successor to Gen. Berredo as head of the civil guard.

2 men beaten unconscious in theatre

COLUMBIA, Maryland (AP) — A man who asked a noisy movie theatre patron to lower his voice was beaten unconscious along with his brother by 10 men while the audience kept watching a gangster film. The brothers were carried down the aisle from their seats in the rear of the theatre, thrown on the floor in front of the screen and kicked and beaten while pleas for help from one of their wives went unanswered, said Sgt. Angus Park of Howard County Police. Only two people said they yelled for help, according to police. No one else recalled seeing or hearing anything. The incident began Wednesday when William A. Murphy, 24, his wife, Tina, 25, and his brother, Robert W. Murphy, 27, were sitting towards the rear of the theatre watching the Untouchables, a new crime film, police said. William Murphy asked a man sitting in the same row to lower his voice. After the third request, the man started hitting Murphy, police said. When Murphy tried to push the man aside, nine other men came behind them joined in the fracas, Park said. The 10 men then picked up the brothers and carried them down the aisle, kicking and screaming while Mrs. Murphy yelled for help and for someone to turn the house on, according to Park. The 10 assailants fled and the two men were regaining consciousness by the time police arrived, he said. The Murphy brothers were taken to a hospital where they were treated for head injuries, bruises and scrapes and released.

Moroccan children play AIDS game

RABAT (R) — Moroccan schoolchildren have devised an AIDS game in their playgrounds, the daily Al Bayane has reported. One child is deemed to carry the disease and has to run after the others. Anybody caught is "infected." The game ends when AIDS has been passed to all the "healthy" players. The last official report on acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) in Morocco, carried by the Moroccan News Agency MAP in February, said that two cases were diagnosed in Casablanca and both victims appeared to have contracted the disease abroad.

Curry murder suspects released

SINGAPORE (R) — A Singapore judge has released six members of a family charged with murdering or helping in the murder of a man whose body was later cut up and cooked in a curry. In a ruling the judge granted the six a discharge after the prosecution said it had insufficient evidence. Three brothers and their sister, Nagaratha Vally Ramiah, 33, were arrested last March and accused of murdering her husband in December, 1984. Their mother and the wife of one of the brothers were accused of abetting them in the murder of Ayakkannu Marimuthu, 37, a caretaker. The four were alleged to have budgeoned the victim to death with an iron rod in a church compound. The man's cooked remains, including pieces of skull and bones, were packed into plastic bags and thrown into several roadside dustbins.

Convicted murderer executed in U.S.

ANGOLA, Louisiana (AP) — A man condemned for the murder of a guard during a bank robbery was executed early Sunday in the electric chair. Benjamin Berry was put to death shortly after midnight, said an official from the State Department of Corrections. He was the 76th prisoner executed in the United States since the U.S. supreme court allowed states to restore the death penalty in 1976. Berry's appeals ran out late Friday when the supreme court refused to stop the execution and Louisiana State Governor Edwin Edwards said he would not step in.

Dog gets gold heroism award

BOSTON (AP) — A 10-year-old German shepherd that was shot four times, saving his 78-year-old owner's life, has been honoured for heroism. King, 45 kilogramme shepherd, received a gold medal Thursday from the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals for protecting his owner during a housebreak by an armed intruder. "I've got no friend but him," said King's owner, Thomas Perkins, 78, of the city's Dorchester section. "He saved my life two or three times. He's ready now if he had to be." King was shot four times on Jan. 5, 1986, when he lunged at a gunman who broke into Perkins' second-floor apartment and yelled, "give it up, old man." The dog set upon the gunman while Perkins hid in a closet. The assailant fled out a window without Perkins' money. A 23-year-old man arrested five days later is awaiting trial on an armed robbery charge issued in the break-in, authorities said. A veterinarian amputated a toe on the dog's right paw and removed a bullet from his thigh. But two bullets imbedded in the muscle in King's neck and shoulder were left there because they were not near any vital organs.

Americans favour AIDS testing

WASHINGTON (R) — Americans rank AIDS above cancer or heart disease as the number-one health threat to the nation and overwhelmingly favour testing, according to a poll. The poll, taken by the ABC Television Network in connection with a four-hour broadcast symposium on acquired immune deficiency disease (AIDS), showed 70 per cent of those surveyed considered AIDS the major health problem, compared with 12 per cent naming cancer and three per cent heart disease. The June 2 telephone poll of 509 adults showed 98 per cent wanted AIDS tests made easily available. Although President Reagan and Vice President George Bush were booed in the past week for calling for some mandatory tests, 85-to-86 per cent of those questioned in the poll called for testing of prison inmates, military personnel, immigrants, and those getting married. Almost as many favoured AIDS testing as part of routine medical checkups, and 58 per cent were willing to allow employers to test their workers. More than six in 10 of those surveyed agreed with the statement, "mandatory AIDS testing would lead to discrimination against those found to have the disease." But 80 per cent nevertheless said stopping the spread of the disease should take precedence over individual privacy.

Austrians break up drug ring

VIENNA, Austria (AP) — Austrian security police have broken up an international drug ring that was organised and financed by hockey star Jiri Bubla, according to a statement by the Interior Ministry. Others arrested included Austrian, Polish, Canadian, Israeli and Czech citizens, the statement said. Bubla, a Czech ice hockey player who has lived in Canada for several years, allegedly organised and financed the operation together with Czech-born Canadian Joseph Janda, the statement said. Anna Pola, an Austrian, born in Czechoslovakia, made several trips to Pakistan, Thailand and Canada as part of the operation, the statement said. Pola, Janda, Bubla and several others whose names the ministry withheld, allegedly smuggled a total of 33.5 kilogrammes of high-quality heroin into Austria, the statement said, then smuggled the drug to Canada.

Jazz great celebrates 70th birthday

NEW YORK (AP) — Jazz great Dizzy Gillespie, who turned 70 on Friday, kicked off a weekend of celebration with a high-spirited, musical party at a midtown hotel. About 100 fellow musicians, including Carmen McRae, Mongo Santa Maria and Lalo Schiffrin, attended the gathering at the New York Penta Hotel. They sang an impressive rendition of "happy birthday" and helped Gillespie make a start on a five-tiered cake. After the party, the trumpet player led a musical parade across Seventh Avenue and into Penn Station, where they all boarded a special train to the Wolf Trap Performing Arts Centre in Virginia, outside Washington.

2 men beaten unconscious in theatre

COLUMBIA, Maryland (AP) — A man who asked a noisy movie theatre patron to lower his voice was beaten unconscious along with his brother by 10 men while the audience kept watching a gangster film. The brothers were carried down the aisle from their seats in the rear of the theatre, thrown on the floor in front of the screen and kicked and beaten while pleas for help from one of their wives went unanswered, said Sgt. Angus Park of Howard County Police. Only two people said they yelled for help, according to police. No one else recalled seeing or hearing anything. The incident began Wednesday when William A. Murphy, 24, his wife, Tina, 25, and his brother, Robert W. Murphy, 27, were sitting towards the rear of the theatre watching the Untouchables, a new crime film, police said. William Murphy asked a man sitting in the same row to lower his voice. After the third request, the man started hitting Murphy, police said. When Murphy tried to push the man aside, nine other men came behind them joined in the fracas, Park said. The 10 men then picked up the brothers and carried them down the aisle, kicking and screaming while Mrs. Murphy yelled for help and for someone to turn the house on, according to Park. The 10 assailants fled and the two men were regaining consciousness by the time police arrived, he said. The Murphy brothers were taken to a hospital where they were treated for head injuries, bruises and scrapes and released.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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IS FOR MERRIMAC COUP

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 875
♥ A4
♦ J2
♣ 1098632
WEST
♠ QJ103
♥ 9753
♦ 9754
♣ 7

EAST
♠ 982
♥ K1086
♦ Q103
♣ AQ5

SOUTH
♠ A24
♥ QJ3
♦ AK86
♣ KJ4

The bidding:
South West North East
2 NT Pass 3 NT Pass
Pass Pass
Opening lead: Queen of ♠

In 1898, the Merrimack was scuttled to block Santiago Harbor channel. The vessel has given its name to the "Merrimack Coup," where an unsupported high card is sacrificed to block entry to a key hand.

North-South were employing a 21-22 range for their opening two trump bid. With 5 high-card points, a six-card minor suit and a relatively balanced hand, North had no interest in any contract other than three no trump.

West led the top of his spade sequence, and declarer saw no point

in holding up. With only one entry to dummy, declarer could not afford to cross to the table for a club finesse, so he made the fine play of the king from hand. East held up, then won the club continuation with the queen as West discarded a diamond.

The threat of the club suit was there for all to see, and the only entry was the ace of hearts. That suit had to be attacked at once if the defense was to prevail. However, it would not be good enough for East simply to shift to a low heart; declarer would win in hand and lead his last club, and the ace of hearts would still be there as the entry to run the suit.